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Not Your Typical Kitchen
Cover photo by Bob Narod

SEKTION modular kitchen system by IKEA



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What's online NOW…

2016 Color Trends for Home Furnishings and Interior Design Revealed
http://bit.ly/1x0fqrv

Moen Names Steven Ward Director of Global Design
http://bit.ly/1H1CPMK

HomeAdvisor Reveals Most Popular Kitchen and Bath Projects of 2014
http://bit.ly/19zi6T4

What's online COMING UP…

Housing Market Continues to See Increased Consumer Confidence

Coverings 2015 Offers Not-to-Be-Missed Programs and Keynote Speakers

Farrow & Ball Reveals Key Colors for 2015



Brand Laminate PremiumFX Pattern by Formica Corporation



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Coveting Convenience



I recently took a cooking class with some friends to learn how to make gnocchi. Because I didn't follow the rule of forming the potato pasta in small, ladylike twists and instead worked mine into pretzel-like lumps, my gnocchi tasted uncooked and highly unprofessional. Even so, it was a fun experience. I remember everyone taking turns washing their hands and noticed the faucet was covered in potatoes clumped together with flour. A hands-free faucet would really have been useful in that scenario.

Today's consumer is about convenience and ease of use – whether it is hands-free technology in the kitchen *and* bathroom (no more touching the toilet flusher at home) or appliances that can actually help your cooking improve by maintaining exact temperatures or letting you know when you are running out of a specific ingredient. See our **Kitchen Trends** piece on page 44 and **Bathroom Tech Savvy** on page 30 for more in-depth information on ever-changing technology options.

Other trends discussed in this issue include bolder use of color, creative storage solutions and personalization of such items as cabinetry and appliances. See our **Special Report** on page 26, where six *K+BB* Editorial Advisory Board members took note of the trends and products that impressed them most during KBIS to report back to you.

Our **Cover Feature** on page 60 highlights a kitchen that is anything but typical. Instead of a wall of cabinets, the homeowners desired more open shelving and creative storage solutions, such as shelves on either side of the island. Open shelving – another trend noted in our Special Report – also plays a part in **Before and After** on page 18.

Universal or aging-in-place design is becoming much more the norm with multigenerational families living under the same roof and people who need a flexible environment that can adapt to changes. In our **Universal Design** column on page 14, the goal of the project was to design a home that was not only accessible to the ailing husband but that also catered to other family members caring for him.

To help you build your career in this dynamic industry, **Last Word** on page 72 emphasizes the benefits of furthering your education, and **Learning Corner** on page 68 guides you through creating your profile and building your brand on Houzz.

Attending ICFF in May? Take a look at pages 34–40 for a sneak peek of highlights and products that are not to miss. Feel free to do as our Editorial Advisory Board did and report back to us with what "wowed" you there. As always, we look forward to hearing from you. ■



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KITCHEN AND BATH BUSINESS
K+BB
DESIGN + INNOVATION + LIFESTYLE / April 2015

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Going Greener



Just the other day I was reading an interesting article in the *Wall Street Journal* on extreme recycling. It caught my attention, as the lead started with "New ideas include trying to brew beer from purified sewage water, composting bodies." That alone sucked me in; I had to read on.

While I am not yet sold on the idea of "poo brew," the piece did highlight the **ReBuilding Center** in Portland, Ore., and their efforts to salvage and sell recycled building materials. They are just one of a number of resources nationally that collect and sell used kitchen and bath materials.

The unfortunate reality of our business is that the building and remodeling industry produces a significant amount of waste. Only about 20 to 30 percent of discarded building materials is actively recycled. The leftover materials account for as much as 30 percent of waste in area landfills. There is no doubt that many of these discarded materials can be salvaged for future use – certainly there is room to improve.

Over the years we have been conditioned to think green in our personal and professional lives. Clearly, we are more conscious of this issue, and consumer habits seem to reflect this cultural shift. We tend to seek out products that have a low environmental impact or those that have some level of recycled materials in the finished product or packaging.

As design professionals, you follow established and widely accepted design standards and techniques that are more environmentally friendly. You seek out green materials and present those options to the consumer during the design process – everything from water-saving plumbing fixtures to energy-efficient appliances to locally quarried stone to the incorporation of reclaimed materials in the final design.

However, how many designers and contractors are giving their customers the option of recycling or donating their existing kitchen or bath? More local and state municipalities are not just encouraging you to recycle, but they are actually going to penalize you if you do not recycle in the form of increased fees for dumping building materials. Certainly not everything is salvageable, but there are a growing number of services that are happy to offer a free quote to deconstruct a project for just that purpose. From the consumers' perspective, there are in many cases tax benefits for donating kitchen cabinets, hardware, appliances and plumbing products.

As an industry we strive to be green, and there is no doubt we design green, but we should not look past the impact we can make during the demo process. With proper planning and outlining the benefits to the consumer, we can make a positive impact. In *K+BB* we report on industry trends throughout every issue – in our **Special Report** on page 26, designer Patricia Gaylor notes the sustainable products she saw at KBIS. Personally, I'd like to see green demolitions become the next big trend in the design space. ■



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Wood-Mode



Wood-Mode recently celebrated the opening of its Wood-Mode Lifestyle Design Center in Chicago's **Merchandise Mart** in **LuxeHome** on the first floor in Suite 119. The center is available to all Wood-Mode dealers and welcomes homeowners, designers, architects, builders and trade professionals. Visitors will find a showcase for the latest product releases and lifestyle design themes for the kitchen, bath and beyond and an entry display featuring Oceanside and Embassy Row, two of the company's recent design themes.

Conestoga Wood Specialties has announced the brand transition of subsidiary, **Sunriver Industries**, which will be incorporated into the Conestoga brand over a period of 12-18 months. The Sunriver manufacturing facility will not see any physical changes aside from branding, signage, etc., and manufacturing will remain on the West Coast at the current Sunriver facility in Kent, Wash.



Lakisha Woods has been named the **National Association of Home Builders** (NAHB) chief marketing officer. This position will oversee all revenue-generating programs unrelated to NAHB's **International Builders' Show** exhibit space sales, and activities will include sponsorship sales and partnerships with major national companies. The position also will identify new business opportunities and handle NAHB branding and public image initiatives. Woods assumes this position after 10 years as vice president of NAHB's publishing and affinity programs.



ROHL has appointed **Tracy Haugh** as the new director of marketing, reporting to **Skip Johnson**, senior VP of marketing and channel services. She will be responsible for driving the communications strategies and key marketing initiatives for the company, including overseeing, developing and managing strategic brand marketing, advertising, social media and public relations. Haugh most recently served as the senior brand manager for **Spectrum Brands** (previously **Stanley Black & Decker**). ROHL also recently welcomed **Balfrey & Johnston, Inc.**, as its newest manufacturer representatives. This new partnership enables ROHL to expand its dealer base in Michigan and offer additional support and opportunities for dealers in this region to grow their business.

Dacor recently won a 2015 **United Servicers Association Partnership Award** for its commitment to a high-quality, after-purchase service experience by providing exceptional service training and technical support. The company received this award for its participation in the association's Institute of Service Training events and for its ongoing contributions and has received this award each consecutive year since 2013.



Panasonic's WhisperGreen Select Ventilation Fans were awarded the **ENERGY STAR 2015 Most Efficient Designation**. Every year ENERGY STAR awards products across 12 categories with the Most Efficient designation for their commitment to delivering cutting-edge energy efficiency and technological innovations. WhisperGreen Select's ultra-quiet DC motor with intelligent SmartFlow technology helps ensure the fans meet designed airflow requirements when installed.

Newport Brass has been honored as a member of the **Made in California** program awarded by **California Manufacturing Technology Consulting** (CMTC). CMTC promotes the importance of California companies' manufacturing processes by working closely with state and federal legislators. It has high standards for the companies that are admitted to the program for innovation and customer satisfaction.

ATI Decorative Laminates has launched its first on-site educational program, **ATI University**. The 1.5-day course is designed for ATI distributors across the country, and each session brings in two to eight participants for education on ATI's products and their journey from the front door to the shipping dock. Additional educational initiatives for 2015 include webinars, training videos and continuing education courses.



K+BB magazine is pleased to announce that **Christopher DeSantis** has joined our team as online editor. He will be responsible for writing, curating and updating content for all aspects of the site and will also serve as the online editor for our sister publications, *Contract* and *Hospitality Design* magazines. A graduate of the **University of Georgia** (where he majored in journalism and Spanish), he has worked on the editorial teams of *Athens BLVD* and the *Atlantan*.



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Whirlpool



Whirlpool Corporation recently announced that nine of its cooking appliances are among the industry's first certified under the **Association for Home Appliance Manufacturers** (AHAM) **Sustainability Standard for Cooking Products**. Seven model ranges and two built-in ovens received certification of the standard, which was developed by an AHAM task force focused on developing new efficiency standards for 2015.The winning models include the Whirlpool Gold 6.2 cu. ft. Capacity Induction Range with True Convection Cooking System (shown).

The **Lake Nona Institute** has joined the **American Society of Interior Designers** (ASID) in its 2014 **Clinton Global Initiative America** (CGI America) **Commitment to Action** to develop the **ASID Protocols for Health and Wellness in Design**. The Lake Nona Institute is a nonprofit, community-focused organization that develops, activates and measures the impact of innovative technologies and programs that can become global models for building healthy, sustainable and inspired communities. As a partner in the ASID CGI America Commitment to Action, the Lake Nona Institute will provide venues throughout the local community and **Lake Nona Medical City** to demonstrate and pilot health and wellness design protocols within the context of an integrated community.

Two of **Franke**'s newest products have been recognized by *Design Journal* with **Awards for Design Excellence** (ADEX) – the Planar 8 Stainless Steel Kitchen Sink and the Steel Series Kitchen Faucet (FF3450). ADEX is one of the largest and most prestigious awards programs for product and project design in the architecture and design industry.

Ferguson Enterprises has acquired **Builders Appliance Center, LLC**, which will now operate as **BAC Appliance Center, a Ferguson enterprise**. Builders Appliance Center is a family-owned appliance dealer in Englewood, Colo., and is the largest luxury appliance dealer in the state. Ferguson has also acquired **Ar-Jay Building Products, Inc.**, (Ar-Jay). Ar-Jay is a cabinet, lighting and fireplace showroom in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, serving professional contractors, remodelers and residential homeowners.



LAUFEN recently named **Nazneen Ahmed** as the new global projects manager of its Global Projects Team in New York City. The new position entails managing specifications for large prestigious local and global projects for LAUFEN, predominately in the New York Metro area.

Fireclay Tile recently became a **B Corp** for its commitment to sustainable design and ethical practices. The company prides itself on taking waste materials and turning them into something beautiful. With a mission to divert waste from landfills, Fireclay uses regionally sourced and recycled materials to manufacture its products.

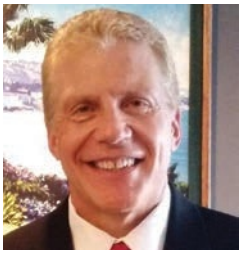


Alno has secured a multi-million dollar contract to provide high-end kitchens and bath vanities for a new condominium project in Sunny Isles, Fla. The project, designed by Architect **Chad Oppenheim** and Architect of Record **Kobi Karp,** consists of two 20-story glass towers with a total of 230 units. For the kitchen, the developers selected an ultra-white door front for the base cabinets and an exotic engineered wood for the upper cabinets. State-of-the-art appliances are by **Smeg** and **Liebherr**. Cashmere oak, an engineered and extremely durable front, was selected for the bathroom vanities.

Elmira Stove Works celebrates its 40th anniversary this year and is holding a sweepstakes in the U.S. and Canada. The Northstar Fab Forty Fridge sweepstakes presents the opportunity for one person in each country to win a Northstar Model 1949 11-cubic ft. retro refrigerator. The contest will run through September 30. With the success of his inspiring ideas for kitchen appliances, **Tom Hendrick**, founder, was inducted into the **National Kitchen & Bath Association Hall of Fame** in 2011 as one of the industry's leading innovators.



SMEG has recently been awarded five **GOOD DESIGN** awards, along with a **2015 iF Design Award** for its toaster and stand mixer. The award-winning products include the concept cooktop with bird motif designed by Architect **Guido Canali**, the 45-cm Wine Cooler from the Dolce Stil Novo Line, the stand mixer and toaster from the small appliances collection created with architects **Matteo Bazzicalupo** and **Raffaella Mangiarotti** and the 90 cm Victoria range. The SMEG toaster and stand mixer, designed in collaboration with Bazzicalupo and Mangiarotti, have been honored with the 2015 iF Design Award and will also be featured in one of three subsequent special shows in the iF design exhibition in Hamburg, Germany.



LG Electronics USA has announced that appliance industry veteran **John Riddle** has been named senior vice president of sales for home appliances. Riddle joined LG Electronics USA in 2011 as vice president of regional home appliance sales. His career includes more than two decades with **Maytag** in key sales management positions.

InSinkErator has unveiled a new eLearning Center to help trade partners recommend disposers and hot water dispensers. Short, engaging modules will cover a variety of topics, including category education, upsell techniques and technical product Information. The modules are designed specifically for plumbers, contractors, kitchen designers, showroom staff, wholesalers, builders and industry sales personnel and feature video, voice narration and interactive games. Segments can be completed in less than 15 minutes. ■

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This whole-house renovation was designed to be user friendly for the homeowner in a wheelchair, as well as everyone else in the household.



Floor Plan After



Floor Plan Before

Extreme Accessible Home Makeover

User-friendly renovation targets everyone in the household

In memory of Darren Talbert, who passed away before this article was published.

Darren Talbert and his family were faced with the need to remodel their existing house to make it more accessible when he was confined to a wheelchair after a debauched surgery. Although many thought he should buy a brand new house to accommodate the growing, ever-changing needs he and his family would have to face, he was adamant that he wanted to continue calling his existing house "home."



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When he contacted me, I took a special interest in the project because of my own struggles with Fibromyalgia. Because I am well seasoned in designing wheelchair-friendly and accessible homes, I decided early in the design process that I would make this remodel user friendly – not just for my client in the wheelchair, but also for everyone who would be taking care of him. I worked closely with the homeowner and his family to ensure all of their individual needs would be met.

Challenges and Solutions

As with any design project, this one was not without its challenges. The homeowner being more than six feet tall made his height requirements different than the average client. Also, as his left leg was in a splint and had to lay flat, the clearances and overhangs had to accommodate this.

The project became more than just simple design, grab bars and pretty colors; I was determined to completely change the family's lives and improve their everyday activities, which was a lot of pressure to handle. I spent many months solely in the planning and design phases and used my Chief Architect design software to show them different floor plan options and color choices.

At times, the meetings got very emotional because Talbert had to face the fact that there were certain things he could no longer do by himself. My team and I alleviated this stress by presenting different design options that would help him still be self-sufficient and independent.

The meetings also got a little personal at times because we needed to ask about private details – such as how he showered or what obstacles he came upon to use the restroom. My client was always very helpful and gave my team all of the info we needed so that we could outfit his home to meet his needs.

I wanted to make sure I took care of my client's wife, too, since she had given up so much to help her husband and stick by his side. I accomplished this through little things like updating her bathroom, picking out new furniture or simply painting a wall her favorite color. This allowed her to feel like this remodel also met her needs.

Hits and Highlights

In this whole-house remodel, the kitchen was completely gutted and redesigned. Highlights and additions include:

- A lower area around the cooktop and sink for wheelchair access
- A set of doors under the sink that retract out of the way of traffic
- A lazy Susan cabinet in the corner by the cooktop
- Rollout shelves in the pantry cabinet
- Knee space by the refrigerator
- A built-in oven at the appropriate level
- LED undercabinet lights
- Recessed lights and pendants over the bar



The designer incorporated knee space by the refrigerator, a built-in oven at an appropriate level, LED undercabinet lighting and Pergo Max laminated floors for their ease of use, affordability and easy-clean properties.



A barrier-free shower with safety grab bars, fold-down bench seat, handheld personal shower and comfort-height toilet are some of the accessible elements in the master bathroom.

Pergo Max laminate floors were an affordable flooring solution since we had so much flooring with which to work. These were also chosen so that a wheelchair could easily roll over them and so the homeowners could easily clean up after their dog.

One of the bedrooms was converted to a fully accessible master bathroom. Highlights and additions include:

- A barrier-free, tiled shower with safety grab bars and a horizontal, recessed niche
- 36-in.-wide doorways to the addition and bedroom
- A fold-down bench seat with reinforced steel legs
- A hand-held personal shower plus a wall-mounted showerhead
- A comfort-height toilet with an extended-height seat and safety grab bars
- A wall-mounted vanity sink with additional countertop space
- A mirrored medicine cabinet for additional storage
- A full linen closet
- A flat-screen TV mounted on the wall in front of the toilet

At the end of the remodel, the homeowners were so pleased with the outcome. Everything they planned for and dreamed of had come to fruition. The husband was able to invite his friends over to hang out in their new addition and watch TV. He could go to the restroom and shower on his own. With a strong desire for cooking, he could go in his own kitchen and comfortably cook his family a meal without any assistance from others. He could wash and fold his own clothes in the custom laundry room built around his needs. The family could now enjoy time together on their new wheelchair-accessible deck and outdoor space. The wife could enjoy having her own bathroom with her favorite colors and feel comfortable knowing that her husband was taken care of. At the end of this emotional project, the homeowners could still come home at the end of the day and call this house their "home." ■

— Ebony Stephenson is a designer at Criner Remodeling in Newport News, Va. She was selected as a 30 Under 30 recipient by the National Kitchen & Bath Association for the Kitchen & Bath Industry Show in 2014.

sources

Designer: *Ebony Stephenson, Criner Remodeling,* ***Photographer:*** *Joelle Mclaughlin Photography*

Kitchen/Addition

Cabinets: *Greenfield Custom Cabinetry;* ***Ceiling Fans:*** *Craftmade;* ***Cooktop:*** *GE:* ***Dishwasher:*** *LG;* ***Faucet and Sink:*** *Kohler;* ***Hardware:*** *Hardware Resources;* ***Laminate Floors:*** *Pergo;* ***Laminate Tops:*** *Formica;* ***Oven:*** *KitchenAid;* ***Paint:*** *Sherwin-Williams;* ***Pendant Lights:*** *Kichler;* ***Refrigerator:*** *Samsung;* ***Undercabinet Lights:*** *American Fluorescent*

Wheelchair Accessible Bathroom

Accessories: *Delta;* ***Fan:*** *Broan;* ***Medicine Cabinet:*** *Kohler;* ***Paint:*** *Sherwin-Williams;* ***Shower Fixtures:*** *Delta;* ***Sink:*** *American Standard;* ***Tile:*** *Florida Tile;* ***Toilet:*** *American Standard;* ***Toilet Seat:*** *Maddak;* ***Vanity Faucet:*** *Delta;* ***Vanity Lighting:*** *Progress*



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Defining Space and Style

Kitchen remodel reflects both homeowners' tastes and achieves a more even flow



Pantries built in around the refrigerator provide the much-needed storage space lacking in the former design. Banquet seating at the end of the island allows this area to be an extension of the kitchen.



BEFORE



Part of a full-level remodel of a 1985 home in the Twin Cities suburbs, this kitchen renovation is the result of what designer Chantal Devane calls "homeowners coming together into a space for the first time." Having recently moved into the house, the homeowners wanted some obvious updates to the kitchen and to also define "their" style in the space.

"In some instances, this was a challenge, as one would say something that would cause the other to raise an eyebrow," said Devane, of Devane Design in Eden Prairie, Minn. "It was sometimes a give-and-take during the convincing process, but I knew what questions to ask without leading to a confrontation, and they were good at being respectful in their communication process."

The obvious updates included:

- Replacing the golden oak, arched-door cabinetry
- Making the layout and lighting more functional
- Removing a large peninsula that cut the dinette area off from the rest of the space
- Relocating the cooktop so the couple could more efficiently work together in the space
- Update the boxy pantries and choppy countertop space
- Open up the space to include the kitchen working space and the eat-in area



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Deeper tones replace the golden oak color of the former space. Ample windows and a substantial white island keep the kitchen from looking too dark.

Best-Laid Plans...

Devane said the couple didn't exactly know what they liked at first, so she kept fine-tuning the options.

"My goal was to create a design that increased the cabinetry storage space and surface area, while maintaining a good flow throughout the kitchen and allow for various functions – the eat-in area, island space, desk area and pantry storage," she explained.

The homeowners also wanted a brighter, warmer, more contemporary space, which Devane achieved through various methods.

"In this kitchen, we had the advantage of being in a space that is flanked by many windows and great outdoor scenery, as well as cascading light from an adjoining dining room," she said. "This allowed us to keep with the richer and deeper warm tones without being too dark."

The large, white-enameled island and white linen drum pendant also add to the room's brightness and keep it from looking too heavy with the dark woods. The island also opened up the workflow and doubled the storage and countertop space.

Devane kept the existing oak hardwood floors but stained them in a darker shade to coordinate with the new space and eliminate the golden tones of the former. The trim work was also updated to coordinate with the new kitchen perimeter cabinets.

Because both the husband and wife often work from home, it was important to incorporate a desk workstation into the kitchen. Devane borrowed some space from the former pantries to include this, whereas the new pantry space is built in around the refrigerator.

According to the designer, the area around the sink would have looked too cluttered and heavy with standard cabinets flanking it.

"The floating shelf design became a key ingredient in creating a look that was open and visually appealing," she added. "The smaller-scale ledgestone backsplash added to the unique look without making the space feel too busy."

Devane explained that the integration of banquette seating at the end of the island was key in defining the dine-in space as an extension of the kitchen instead of just having a separate eating space at the end.

"We melded both ends of the room seamlessly," said Devane. "The wall of windows complements the dine-in area beautifully, and we had custom window treatments designed to perfectly flank the space and add a dose of color to brighten the outdoor views."

...Always Come with a Few Challenges

The header over the sink was an eyesore, but to get rid of it would have required the addition of metal beams to make up for the support it provided. Because that option was a bit intensive, Devane took away the header's boxy look by using open shelving around the sink.

"Structurally, it was going to be expensive to make alterations, so I opted to keep it in place and make the area more of an architectural impact with the floating shelves and ledgestone backsplash," she said. "This kept that space open and airy – but also practical and contemporary."

In one corner of the kitchen was a stack of mechanical elements that could not be moved, so Devane also had to make that area a part of the design.

"With each cabinet 'area' standing on its own and having its own unique features, this showcased the corner – making it look intentional," she said. "This was reinforced by installing the backsplash only along the back walls instead of having it wrap around the corner."

Devane and her team moved the range to the side wall, which allowed for external venting – something the former space lacked. To achieve this, they had to push back the wall in that area by borrowing some space from the dining room behind it.

According to Devane, the doorways had to stay put because of the way the other rooms were set up for entrance, so the final challenge involved having to stay within the original footprint. She created a better flow throughout the space by removing the peninsula, adding the island for more countertop and storage space, making the stack of mechanical items and header a part of the kitchen design, including a workspace and incorporating banquette seating as an extension of the island. ■

— By Chelsie Butler

sources

***Design:** Chantal Devane, Devane Design; **Photography:** Tim and Madie Photography*

***Backsplash:** Florida Tile; **Countertops:** HanStone Quartz; **Custom Cabinets:** Paulson Brothers Woodworkx; **Dinette Table & Chairs:** Bassett Furniture; **Dishwasher, Microwave, Oven & Refrigerator:** GE; **Faucet:** Delta; **Hardware:** Berenson; **Hood:** Vent-A-Hood; **Lighting:** LBL Lighting & Restoration Hardware; **Window Treatments:** Point of View*

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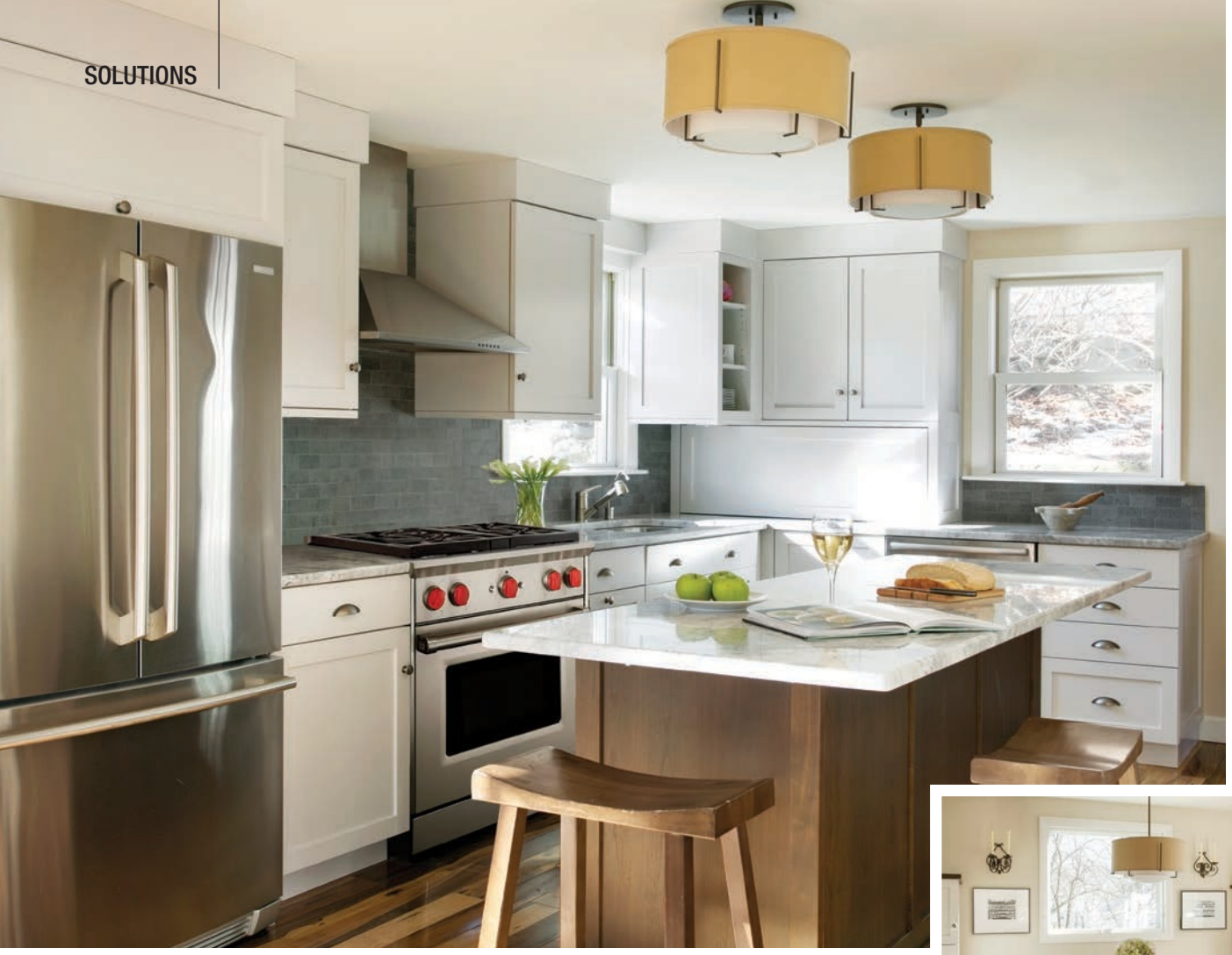
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The reclaimed hickory and spruce wood table seats four to six comfortably and 10 when turned perpendicular.



A Spicy Challenge

A kitchen redesign addresses the needs of a family of four cooks

Cooking from scratch is the norm for two owners and their two teenage children in this kitchen redesign. Stuck with a dark and cramped space, the family approached designer Jamie Nicholas of Jamie Florence Designs in Reading, Mass., to envision a space better suited for four cooks and their many appliances, tools and spices.

Challenge 1 — Increasing Size

At only 10-ft. by 11-ft., the kitchen was obviously too small to fit the homeowner's requirements for a busy, eat-in kitchen. The same size as the kitchen, the dining room could not fit a table large enough for their family gatherings, so the homeowners agreed to eliminate the formal seating area in lieu of seating for four on a daily basis and room to seat 10 occasionally. Since the wall between the kitchen and the dining room was load bearing, Nicholas was able to take the wall down and combine the two rooms.

"The space would always be narrow, but now I had the width I needed," she said. "I was able to create a huge amount of counter space and two separate prep areas, as well as a built-in bench/eat-in kitchen."

Challenge 2 — Adding More Light

Worsening the already small space, the kitchen only had two windows, one fluorescent light in the center and one light above the sink at the window. Dark slate tile lined the floor, and the walls were painted a deep orange color – while the black appliances were dated.

By combining the two rooms, the new kitchen benefited from the increased natural light. The window in the dining room also became a large picture window. As for artificial lighting, Nicholas incorporated several 4-in. incandescent lights, task lighting and decorative lighting.

"My clients were taken aback by amount of lights and even asked if they needed so many during construction," said Nicholas. "But after they were able to use the kitchen, they agreed that the layering of lighting works wonderfully and were very happy with it all."

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Challenge 3 — Creating for Cooks

Besides proper lighting, a heavily used kitchen has needs individual to the cook. This family's love of curry culminates in a multitude of special pots and pans, as well as a massive selection of spices.

"They needed their special tools to be easily accessible on a daily basis," explained Nicholas.

Almost every cabinet has an interior accessory that was carefully planned, including files, tray partitions in three locations, a pullout storage rack and rollout shelves. There are spice inserts in drawers and spice racks on the back of the wall cabinetry, which were made deeper to accommodate a regular depth. To keep all of the tools organized, the team measured the most important items and laid them out in the drawers before setting the partitions accordingly.

Challenge 4 — Accommodating an Eat-in Kitchen

After all the food was prepared, the family wanted a place to comfortably sit within the kitchen on a daily basis.

"Finding a table the size that we needed, in a style and finish that would work with a leaf the size we needed, I knew was going to be next to impossible," said Nicholas. "So I suggested from the beginning that we design a table in a rustic wood to be the exact size and style that we needed it to be."

Made from reclaimed hickory and spruce wood, the table seats four to six more than comfortably and seats 10 when turned perpendicular and with an added leaf.



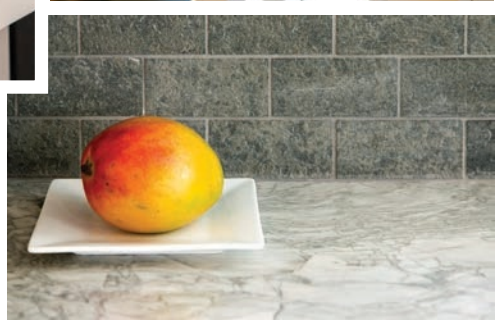
The island has rollout shelves without doors in a very large cabinet, enabling the homeowners to easily access their most used pots and pans without having to open doors.



Spice inserts in drawers and racks on the back of the wall cabinets accommodate the owners' love of cooking different types of curry.

The team measured the most important items and laid them in the drawers before setting the partitions accordingly to save space.





White quartzite counters give the feeling of marble counters without the maintenance issues.

"It was very important to me that I give them the seating they requested, but when the table was turned that they still could walk through in between it and the island, and they can," said the designer.

Challenge 5 — Combining Bright, Traditional & Rustic

Playing on the room's new light, layout and organization, Nicholas aimed to create a warm aesthetic that would suit the four cooks.

"My goal was to give them a much brighter, light and airy space with traditional design elements – but not overly ornate – along with some rustic tones," she said.

The walnut island and the Brazilian pecan floor bring in a hint of rusticity and complement the lava stone backsplash. Made of maple, the Shaker-style cabinets complement the white quartzite counters, which echo Carrara marble counters without the maintenance issues.

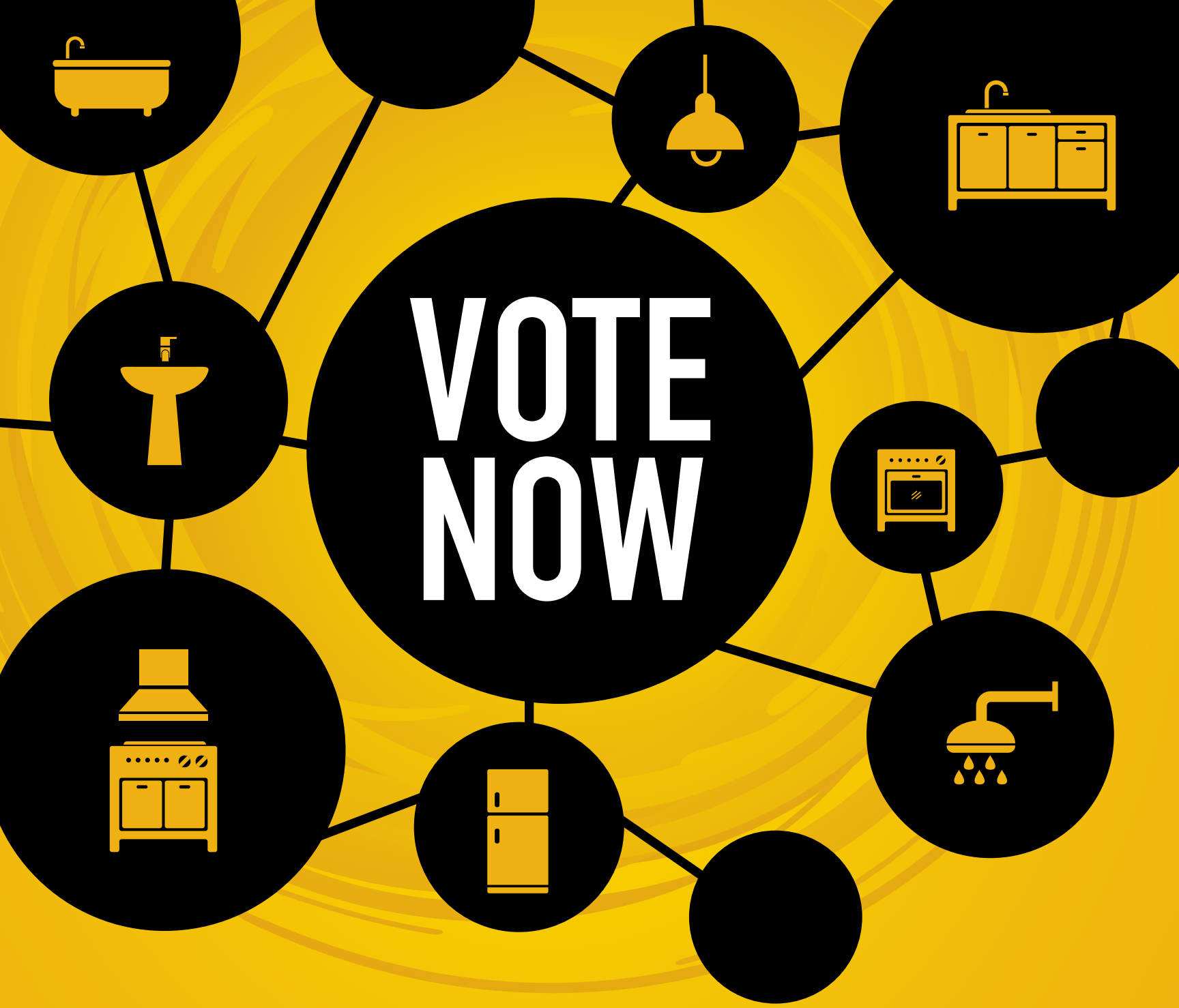
"Since this kitchen is truly worked in, we needed a more practical selection so the kitchen retains its beauty," said Nicholas. ■

— By Erinn Waldo

sources

Designer: *Jamie Nicholas, Jamie Florence Designs;* ***Builder:*** *Skip Miller, American Dreamwrights;* ***Photographer:*** *Eric Roth*

Backsplash: *Vogue Bay;* ***Cabinetry:*** *Painted maple and walnut by Jamie Florence Designs;* ***Countertops:*** *Buonato Granite & Marble;* ***Decorative Lighting:*** *Hubbardton Forge;* ***Paint:*** *Benjamin Moore;* ***Stools:*** *Pottery Barn;* ***Table:*** *Custom design by Jamie Florence Designs;* ***Wood Tops:*** *Walnut by Jamie Florence Designs*



To honor the best in kitchen and bath design manufacturers, *K+BB* invites you to vote in its third annual K+BB Readers' Choice Awards contest.

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Members of *K+BB*'s Editorial Advisory Board Share Their Favorite Trends and Products from the KBIS 2015 Floor

Splashes of color, innovative storage and technology solutions, personalization and ease of use are some of the product and design trends seen at KBIS this year. Six designers from the *K+BB* Editorial Advisory Board shared their selections with us in the following Special Report.



Brandy Souza

Kitchen Views, New Bedford, Mass.

According to Souza, KBIS was filled with plenty of brands we know and love, and these brands have clearly embraced new technology to make our lives easier.

"One takeaway from this year's show was that technology is king," she added. "Technology, design and function can come together to better our lives."

1. Kohler's Touchless Flush Technology. Just when you think heated seats were the best invention to toilets, now we don't even have to touch our toilets to flush them!

2. TechTop by LG Hausys. Just place your cell phone, exercise tracker, glucose meter, heart-rate meter or portable speaker on the counter surface, and your battery will automatically charge.

3. Viking's Professional French-Door Double Oven. This design gives a modern, commercial look to your oven. It matches the current French-door refrigeration trends and allows users to open it with one hand – perfectly designed for ADA needs. The large convection fan with bi-directional movement allows maximum airflow and excellent cooking results.

4. Homecrest Cabinetry. It's one of Souza's favorite cabinet lines because it can be used anywhere – kitchen, laundry area and mudroom.


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Patricia Gaylor

Gaylor Interior Design, Little Falls, N.J.

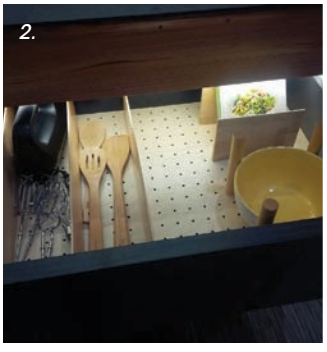
Gaylor was on her mission to find the sustainable and green products prevalent at KBIS this year. Several of the products by which she was impressed also fall into the category of ease of use and comfortable living.

1. Florida Tile's Restore product line is part of its new Thinner program. According the Gaylor, the planks can be placed over existing tile, which saves the old tile from winding up in a landfill.

2. LED lighting is showing up everywhere these days – even in drawers. The Loox LED Lighting collection from **Häfele** provides uniform cabinet and drawer illumination so users can easily see and access what they need inside.


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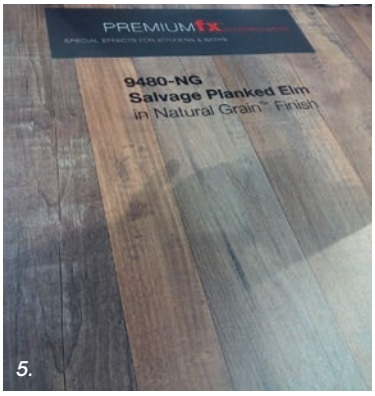

3.

3. Wilsonart's Chalkboard Laminate is available upon request as Forest Stewardship Mix (or recycled) Credit and requires no regular maintenance. It is available in 4-ft. by 8-ft. sheets and can be used in a variety of spaces and applications.

4. Coastal Shower Doors introduced its Second-Generation Gridscape collection at KBIS. The doors, which are made in the USA, can be used with clear, satin-frosted or patterned tempered door options and are available as stock-hinged swinging shower doors, Roman-style fixed partitions, bathtub shower screens, sliding tub/shower enclosures and outdoor shower doors.

5. Formica – a product that is Greenguard certified – is made in America, which Gaylor says is important because it eliminates overseas hauling and saves on carbon fuel burning. Also, "Using a product that looks like wood but is actually a thin layer of paper saves a boatload of trees from being cut down," she added. The company's PremiumFX patterns are available in four stone and concrete looks and two horizontal wood finishes, including Salvage Plank Elm (shown), which emulates the trend of reclaimed wood.

6. LED nightlights from **SnapPower** cost less than 10 cents a year to operate and last 25+ years. They are easy to install with no wires or batteries needed and leave the electrical outlet free for use.



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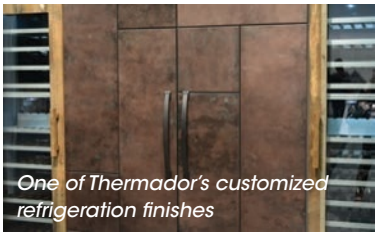


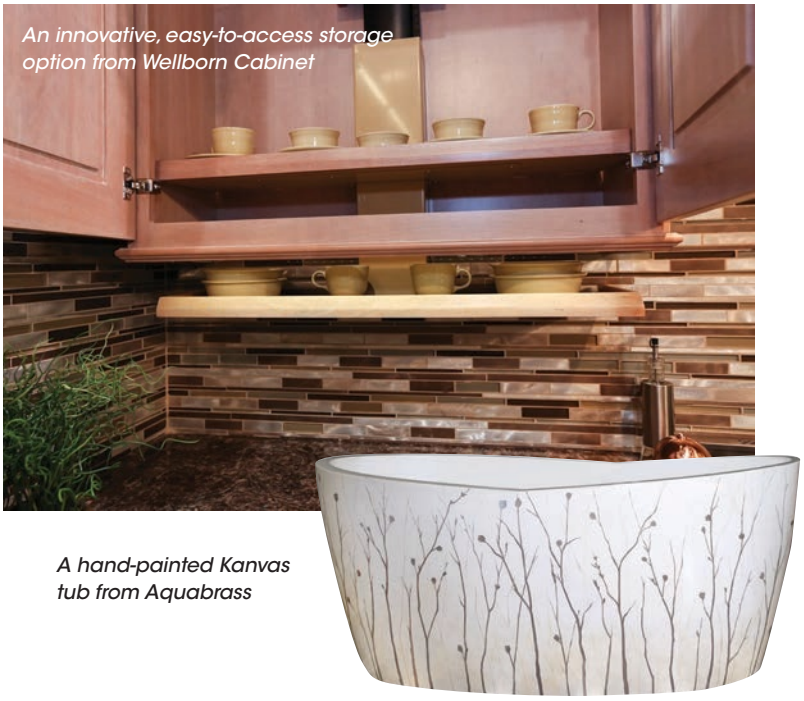
Toni Sabatino

Toni Sabatino Style, New York

Sabatino noted a variety of trends at KBIS, including a lack of wall cabinets in kitchens, which were replaced by tall and open shelving. Less clutter is a must, so innovative storage solutions were abundant, including built-in cabinetry options as seen in the Wellborn Cabinet booth. She saw multiple hanging vanities, as well as innovative wine storage and refrigeration options.

"Customizable is king," she noted. She saw this personalization trend in Thermador's custom refrigerator wall, hand-painted Kanvas tubs from Aquabrass, vanities with custom tile inserts from Tilebar and custom paint colors.


One of Thermador's customized refrigeration finishes


An innovative, easy-to-access storage option from Wellborn Cabinet

A hand-painted Kanvas tub from Aquabrass



Cheryl Kees Clendenon

In Detail Interiors, Pensacola, Fla.

I think people are starting to embrace more color in design. Just say no to beige and the rusty bucket-of-bolts theory of design. I loved seeing the mix of colors in tile, hoods, knobs and handles and even door hardware, and I love white paired with a strong and saturated hue.

To me, this embracing of color is indicative of the uptick in the economy, a return to "happy" colors to surround you and simply a light-hearted


The orange Bertazzoni range paired with white cabinets.

approach to adding a little bit of fun to the ordinary. Not to say that adding color has to be only a circus tent-type of approach. Not at all. Color can be used in a very sophisticated manner in design, too.



Ebony Stephenson

Criner Remodeling, Newport News, Va.

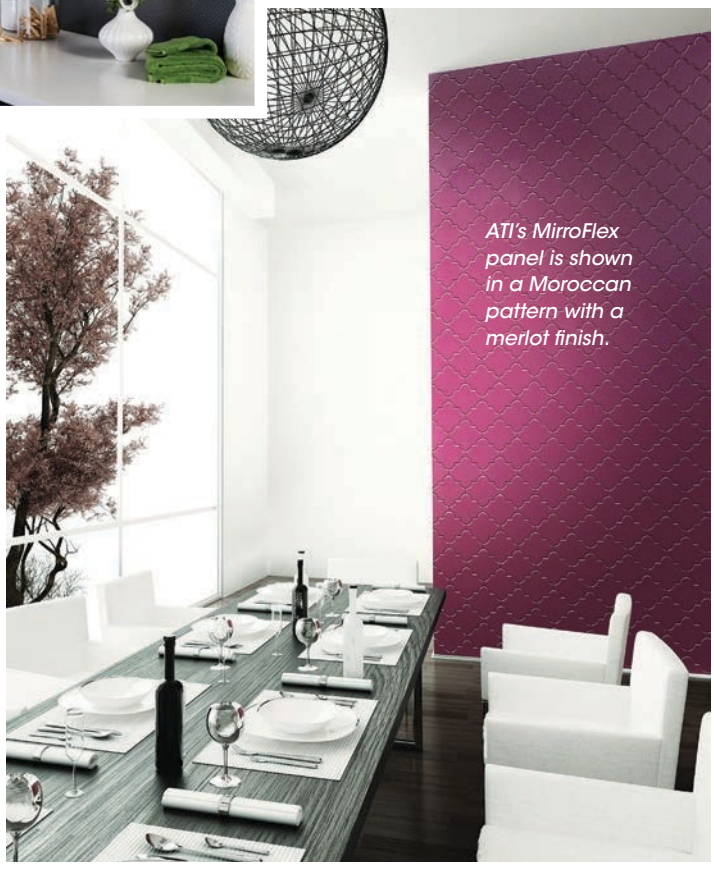
Stephenson noted specific manufacturers at KBIS doing spectacular things. She appreciated ATI's laminates that can replace traditional tile in the kitchen or bathroom, as well as Formica's new patterns and colors that complement more modern designs. Hardware Resources featured attractive hardware for cabinets and doors at affordable prices, and – as Sabatino noted earlier – the use of floating shelves in place of cabinets was prevalent.



Greek Key, shown in charcoal, is part of the Jonathan Adler Collection from Formica.

The Cosgrove by Elements collection from Hardware Resources features a clean design with sleek curves.





ATI's MirroFlex panel is shown in a Moroccan pattern with a merlot finish.



Paula Kennedy, CMKBD, CAPS

Timeless Kitchen Design, Seattle

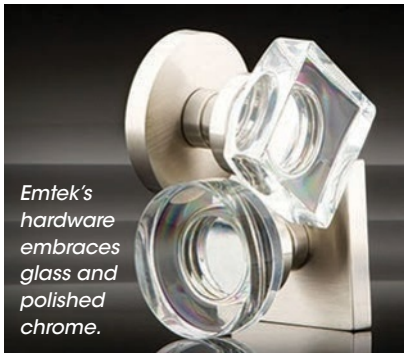
Kennedy's interests at KBIS included polished chrome coming back in a bright, refreshing way, reflective surfaces and mirrored accents – all what she refers to as "a breath of fresh air." Global influences in tile and wood textures were also prevalent, as shown in the Tilebar and Richelieu booths, as were rich colors, such as dark blue seen in the Cosentino and ROHL booths.



Brizo's Articulating Faucet



A Two-Tier Knife Block organizer from Rev-A-Shelf.



Emtek's hardware embraces glass and polished chrome.

"I found it interesting how many times that deep, dark blue kept popping up," she said. "I may have to keep an eye on that for the future."

She noted that brass and gold are making a comeback – mainly in muted and aged tones and finishes – and that storage and organization features are all the rage.

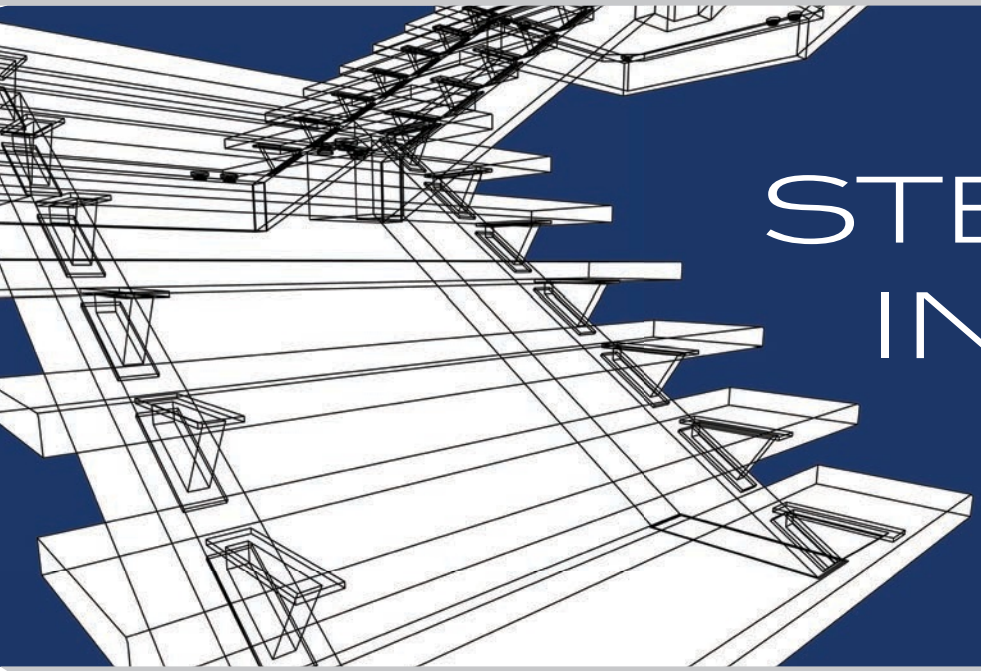
"Houzz said the number-one search [on its site] for consumers is storage and organizational features," she said. "What matters is what's on the inside!

Lastly, she noticed the commercial look and feel of certain products moving into residential spaces, such as the Articulating Faucet from Brizo, which she said also goes with the industrial, vintage chic trend. ■

— By Chelsie Butler

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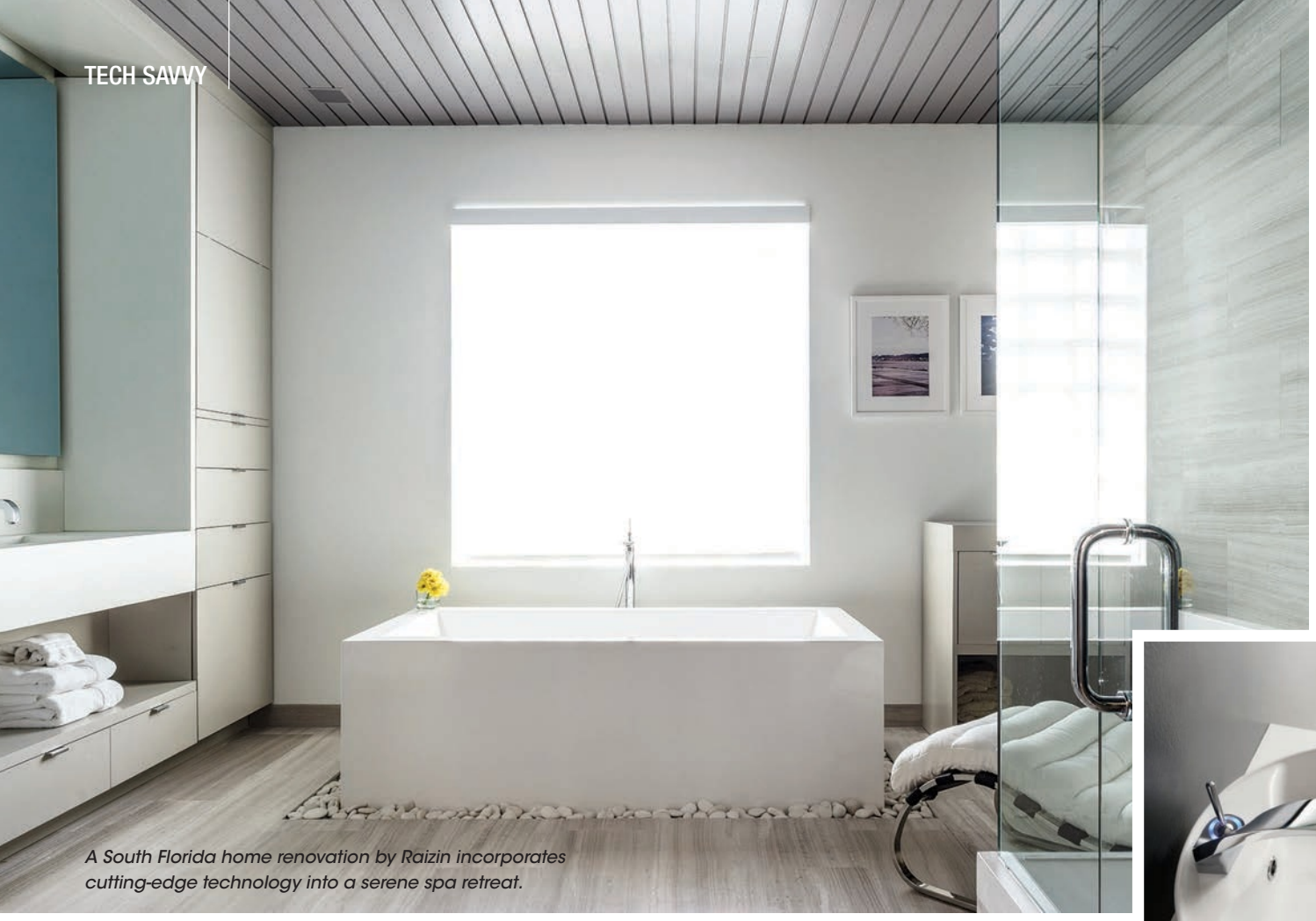
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A South Florida home renovation by Raizin incorporates cutting-edge technology into a serene spa retreat.



GRAFF's Ametis faucets feature LED-lit controls that change color to indicate water temperature.

Wall-to-Wall Technology Provides Convenience and Safety in the Bathroom

Smart homes are the phenomenon of modern interior design reacting to and preparing for a period of time during which the largest percentage of the population – Baby Boomers – are entering or currently in retirement. Beyond making conscious decisions about incorporating exercise and better diets into their lifestyles, this surprisingly tech-savvy demographic is leading the trend of bringing technology into the home for reasons of convenience, safety and health.

While tech-savvy homes have traditionally focused on smart alarms and locks, video monitoring and home technology management systems that can all be controlled from an app on a smartphone, the real return of tech upgrades comes from investing in healthier choices for the bathroom. The following bathroom tech products make efficient, eco-friendly advancements.

1. Lighting. The bathroom is the one place in the home where perfect lighting is arguably more essential than anywhere else. Responsible LED lighting strips by WAC are a great option for long-lasting, high-performance, aesthetically pleasing luminaires. WAC products add beauty and drama to the bathroom space while saving energy with motion sensors to activate light only when someone is in the room, reducing maintenance costs and extending the life of decorative and functional lighting. WAC also offers organic LED lighting options, although those are more costly to purchase and maintain.

2. Water Fixtures. Faucets and showerheads have come a long way. A step above standard hot and cold dials, GRAFF's Ametis Collection of faucets feature water-saving technology and temperature-sensitive LED-lit controls that change color to indicate water temperature. If entertainment and connectivity are priorities, Kohler's Moxie showerhead with Bluetooth allows for the streaming of music, news or talk radio straight through the dispenser. Vitamin C-infused showers, thanks to filter technologies as low as $50, can bolster the health factor by neutralizing the chlorine in tap water and contributing to healthy skin and hair.

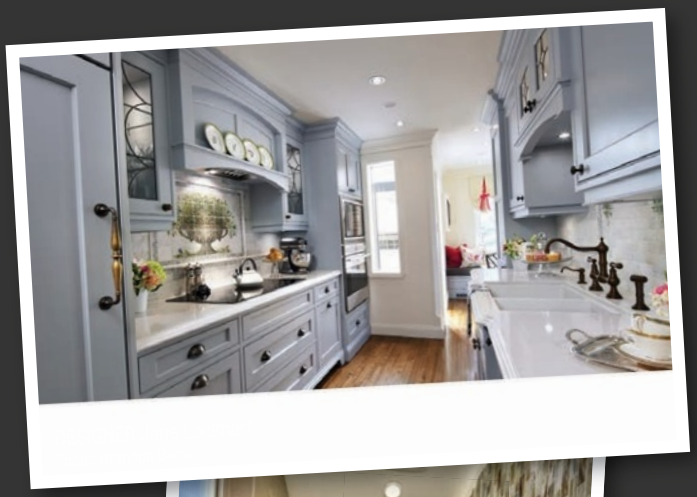
3. Toilets. Tech- and health-conscious toilets have become particularly advanced, offering automated silent flushing, deodorizers and more. TOTO's Neorest tankless, one-piece toilet features an integrated bidet for front and rear warm-water washing, an automatic air dryer and an ion

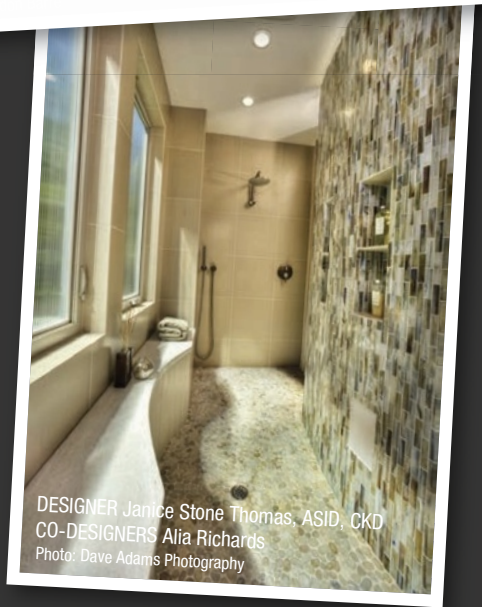
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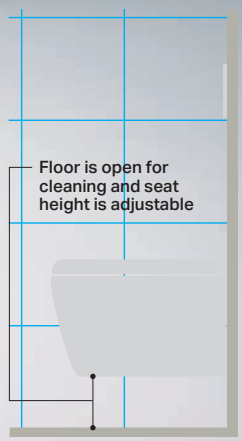
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Flat-screen TVs can be a source of entertainment while on and a mirror when off. WAC LED lighting strips with a ceiling motion sensor were used in the vanity area.



TOTO's Neorest toilet features an ion barrier glazing that cleans the toilet bowl with every flush.

barrier glazing that cleans the toilet bowl with every flush. A convenient wireless LCD remote can be mounted to the wall to operate the different functions. If thousands of dollars isn't in the budget for a toilet, spend a few hundred on an advanced bidet toilet seat by Brondell, which offers most of the same modernizations.

4. Extras. Who says a TV has to be restricted to the living room or bedroom? Flat-screen televisions can become a source of entertainment while on and a mirror when off as part of modern, relaxed bathroom design. Electric Mirror's Loft Bathroom Mirror TV is simple, sleek and complementary to any design concept. Options include a 15.6- or 21.5-in. screen television and three types of mirror surfaces in five standard or custom sizes. The LED HDTV and low-voltage power supply features make for energy-efficient entertainment.

Another multi-function perk to consider is upgrading to reflexology flooring. Posture-supportive reflexology flooring is said to synchronize with your circadian rhythms and help you stand up straight. Pebble flooring helps ease aching feet and lower blood pressure by relieving stress in the process. The idea originates from the Chinese, who attribute healed organs, muscles and glands to pebbled walkways that stimulate pressure points on the soles of your feet. A less-expensive alternative to installing reflexology flooring throughout the bathroom would be to pick up a few faux-pebbled vinyl bath mats from your local home décor store.

Smart bathrooms offer more than convenience. Most of the bathroom tech products on the market help provide a healthier, more sanitary way of life. Whether the budget is limitless or limited, there are alternatives at both ends of the spectrum that can achieve the relaxing tech-savvy bathroom concept. ■

— Wendy Raizin is the owner of Raizin Design, a boutique design-consulting firm with locations in Miami, New York City and Los Angeles.

GEBERIT

Think Tank

The Monolith tank is here, hidden in a streamlined, glass housing. There is no unsightly gap behind Monolith because it "hugs" the wall.

The Monolith tank is the most advanced in the world – one-piece, insulated, guaranteed never to leak.

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ICFF®

in Motion

This Year's ICFF Expands to Offer More Exhibit Space and Special Programming

Section by Chelsie Butler

This year's ICFF (formerly the International Contemporary Furniture Fair) – taking place May 16-19 at the Jacob K. Javits Center in New York City – has expanded to two levels with 165,000 square feet of exhibition space. With this 30 percent increase in size comes more features for you to get the most out of your experience during the event.

Features at the 2015 show include:

- **Opening Night Party.** From 7 to 9 p.m. on Saturday, May 16, celebrate with other industry professionals at the Museum of Modern Art, The Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Sculpture Garden, Design and Architecture Galleries.

- **HO.MI New York.** More than 120 Italian designers and brands who exhibit at the biannual HO.MI Milano Lifestyles exhibition held at Fiera Milano in January and August will travel to the U.S. to take part in the first HO.MI New York at ICFF.

- **Luxe Interiors + Design Pavilion @ ICFF.** The new luxury event for the U.S. interiors marketplace will premiere at ICFF 2015. It will showcase 80 of the top brands in contemporary and classic designs in furniture, lighting, wall covering, carpets, kitchen & bath products and accessories and will also host exhibitor programming. The list of participating brands at press time included: Apropos Inc., Ashley Norton, Classic Rugs, Decorative Art & Design by Ani, Empire Industries, Exclusive Home



Interiors, FB International, Features Outdoor Living, Furniture Society, Hudson Company, Imaestri, Insane Luxury, Keuco, Lambert & Fils, Lexington Home Brands, Hydro Systems, Jacuzzi, Littman Brands, Lorin Marsh, O'Luminary, Oliver & George, Pehuen Designs, Richard Townsend, Simon Pearce, Solua, Sublime, Suite NY, THG Paris and ZGC/Tapologie.

- **ICFF Talks.** Industry leaders share their knowledge on topics that range from innovation in materials, through new design approaches in color and style for residential, hospitality, contract and luxury retail environments.

- **ICFF Studio.** A collaboration between Bernhardt Design and ICFF, Studio is a chance for 11 emerging design professionals to showcase their work for a plethora of manufacturers, retailers and media. Entries are judged on design aesthetics, ability to be economically mass-produced, marketability and commercial viability. Selected winners will receive a space on the ICFF show floor created by New York design studio Truck. This year's participants include: Hanna Kruse, Jordan Tomnuk, Fahmida Lam, Jonah Willcox-Healey, Hui Ling Cheng, Funi Ding, Hines Fischer, Laura Yeh, David Vu, Tamer Nakisci and Jordi Lopez.

- **ASID @ ICFF.** The American Society of Interior Designers is offering an expanded educational program for industry professional to earn Interior Design Continuing Education Council/Continuing Education Units throughout the show.

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF INTERIOR DESIGNERS AT ICFF

More than 32,000 architects, interior designers, developers, visual merchandisers and buyers are expected to visit the show's 700-plus exhibitors, who will feature contemporary furniture, seating, carpet and flooring, lighting, outdoor furniture, materials, wall coverings, accessories, textiles and kitchen and bath products for residential and commercial interiors.

"ICFF has been an integral part of our business since day one," said Christopher Poehlmann, owner of CP Lighting. "It is the one venue I always choose for debuting new products and concepts, and it has helped launch my best-known work. It's not only a show I hold in high esteem but one I truly enjoy participating in, so I guess mixing business with pleasure is part of my business model."

Representatives from Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, El Salvador, France, Germany, Guatemala, Italy, Japan, Lebanon, Lithuania, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Philippines, Portugal, Scotland, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, U.S., United Kingdom and Venezuela will be present during ICFF 2015.

"We believe ICFF is a really good event where we can meet with designers, architects, specifiers and customers," said Mélanie Savard, marketing advisor, Julien, Inc. "We look forward to taking this opportunity to position ourselves as the first brand to think about when customers need a specific stainless steel item that cannot be found in standard offer on the market."

Chat with a Former ICFF Studio Finalist



Nolen Niu is an American industrial designer based in Beverly Hills, Calif., who is now a judge on Spike TV's "Framework," the first furniture design competition series. But before he became a well-known name, Niu was a finalist in the ICFF Studio/Bernhardt Design joint venture in 2006, the year in which it launched.

K+BB had an opportunity to talk to Niu about his winning product in more detail.

So tell us about the design you showcased:

My piece was called the ZERO chaise lounge, which features a cantilevered base design. The seat portion is suspended on a stainless steel stem that cants forward off of a 1-in.-thick stainless steel base. The seat portion is only two inches thick, which is fully upholstered for optimal comfort.

How did your piece meet the criteria?

ICFF Studio searches for new and innovative ideas that explore the possibilities of design and manufacturing. It's a platform that allows emerging designers a chance to showcase their design concepts and ideas to the masses through this sponsored exhibition. Not only was the ZERO chaise lounge the first cantilevered chaise on the market, it was flat packable, allowing it to be produced in larger quantities.

How has this competition helped you further your design career?

Back in 2006, I was literally just starting out with little to no exposure. ICFF Studio provided me with a proper platform to showcase my designs to the press, media and manufacturers alike. I can't express the importance and value in being selected to exhibit at ICFF Studio, simply because it's a sponsored exhibition with the Bernhardt Design name backing it. To exhibit on my own at that time was financially impossible and wouldn't have had anywhere near the same impact.



◀ **Dornbracht**'s Smart Water for the bathroom can be used at the sink, shower or tub. One or two clicks on the display switch – or the app – automatically fills the tub to the desired temperature and level. The app even alerts when the tub is full. In the shower, each family member can select his or her name on the display switch for personalized settings or choose from various preprogrammed scenarios. Smart Water at the sink features a foot sensor for hands-free control, memory function and the ability to work with multiple outlets. **Circle No. 200 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



▲ The 192.2000 8-in. faucet from **Isenberg** features a soft contemporary look and is available in chrome and brushed-nickel finishes. The product is available as a matching single-hole faucet, Roman tub faucet and/or thermostatic and pressure-balance valves. **Circle No. 202 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**

▶ **Laufen** has expanded its ILBAGNOALESSI One series of basins. The "Tuna" is now being offered in additional sizes, each with available left- or right-facing installations. The new line is offered in white with Laufen Clean Coat, and accessories include a toilet paper holder, towel holder and towel hook. **Circle No. 201 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



▶ SmartStation accessories from **Home Refinements by Julien** are designed to maximize the way you use your sink space. The accessories, which include colanders, soaking bins, cutting boards, trays and drying racks, hang over undermount or top-mount sinks to facilitate food preparation and create additional workspace. **Circle No. 203 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



▼ L-Cube, a bathroom furniture program from **Duravit** and designed by Christian Werner, is a personalized solution where users can determine the function, feel and color scheme for their designs. A key characteristic of the collection is a shadow gap that surrounds the fronts and sides of the furniture – placing the basin on a higher level and making it appear as if the fronts do not touch one another. It is available in 30 different surface options, various finishes and real-wood fronts. **Circle No. 204 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



▲ The Sven Credenza by **Jeffrey Douglas Studio Line** is made from rich walnut and inspired by Japanese screens; its slatted wood adds function with an 'open-air' design. It can be used to store a variety of items, and custom finger-jointed hinges allow for movement – while the curved base adds elegance to the contrasting rectilinear top. Available stains include walnut and iroko, as well as a lacquered finish. **Circle No. 205 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



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◀ **Arch Design** offers a variety of patterns and materials to create custom tiles out of natural stone like marble and travertine. Each tile is made-to-order in the factory, and the company uses an advanced manufacturing technology that allows the creation of one-of-a-kind engraved design tiles that can be used on walls and floors and in wet areas. **Circle No. 206 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



▲ The Romana Cabinet by **Ercol** is a solid light oak dining collection with gentle curves. Full of crafted detailing with soft-close doors and drawers, this contemporary collection is finished in a clear matte lacquer so the beauty of the natural timber shines through. It retails for $3,200. **Circle No. 208 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**

▶ The Bronze Pulley Pendant from **Sun Valley Bronze** is a modern version of a classic design. The pendant is counterbalanced by a weight, which operates smoothly on a pulley system. The new bronze model, which is also available in a fixed version, is offered in 10 finishes and with a variety of exposed wire colors. **Circle No. 207 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**





▲ The Grand Bubble Table by **Erin Sullivan Objects** evokes the natural beauty of geodes and pyrite and can comfortably seat a group of six. It is made of bronze and glass. **Circle No. 210 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**

▶ The CP3d series from **CP Lighting** includes a variety of shade options that are designed to act as light-gathering elements – diffusing the harsh light from the LED engine and creating playful shadows and ambient light in the process. The pendants are suitable for kitchens, bars and bathrooms. **Circle No. 209 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**





◀ The Circlet series by **Grain Design** includes pendants, sconces and a chandelier (shown) and ranges in price from $725 to $4,850. Solid wood canopies are paired with hand-blown glass reflectors that illuminate without a visible bulb or hot spot. The company worked with glass artist John Hogan to create the collection. **Circle No. 211 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**







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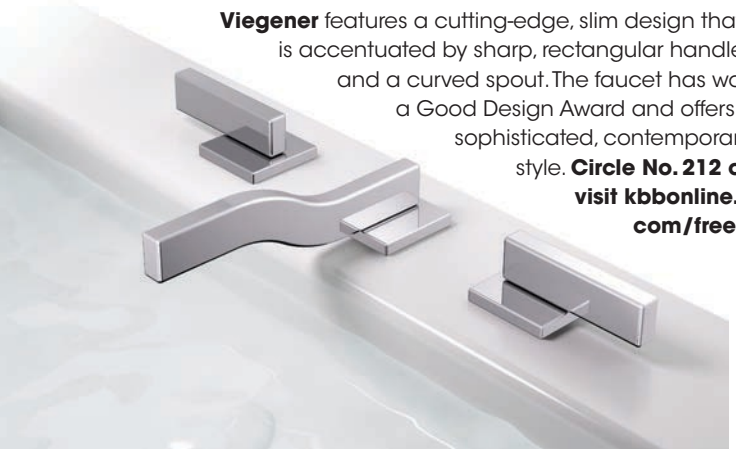
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▼ The Premium Collection Shoreline faucet from **Franz Viegener** features a cutting-edge, slim design that is accentuated by sharp, rectangular handles and a curved spout. The faucet has won a Good Design Award and offers a sophisticated, contemporary style. **Circle No. 212 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



▲ The Hammam Touch & Steam from **Effegibi** features state-of-the-art steam-generating technology housed behind a sheet of glass. Touchscreen controls light the glass and let you choose from a variety of functions, including steam, color therapy and hot-air circulation, and the product can be installed in any shower or Turkish bath. **Circle No. 214 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



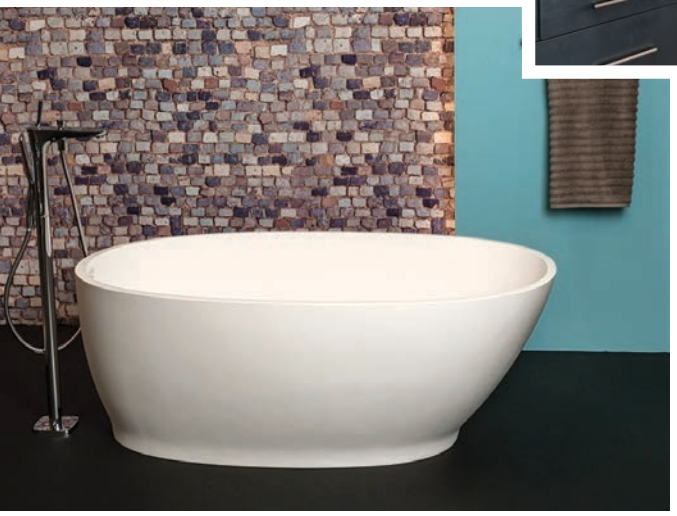
▶ The **ROHL Perrin & Rowe** Deco 3-Hole Basin Widespread Lavatory Faucet is available in polished chrome, polished nickel and French brass. The art deco style of this entire collection, which also includes tub fillers, shower kits and accessories, takes its cues from some of London's finest hotels and iconic buildings built during the early 1900s. **Circle No. 213 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



▶ **Country Floors** introduces the Temple Brick Collection in 20 bold color tones. This eye-catching collection lightens up any commercial or residential wall covering, is ideal as a kitchen backsplash and is made to order in the U.S. **Circle No. 215 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



▲ This non-threshold shower features two classic-brushed, stainless steel Modulo TAF linear shower drains from **Easy Drain USA**. TAF, or tile-adjustable frame, is a height-adjustable support frame that ensures smooth leveling of the grate to any tile thickness and offers simultaneously secondary water drainage. **Circle No. 217 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



◀ **jacuzzi**'s Urbino tub features a classic design with a small footprint and a traditional end drain. Part of the Avvio Collection, the tub is made of Luxecast solid surface material, which is durable and easy to clean, and is available in gloss, matte and dual-tone finishes. **Circle No. 216 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**

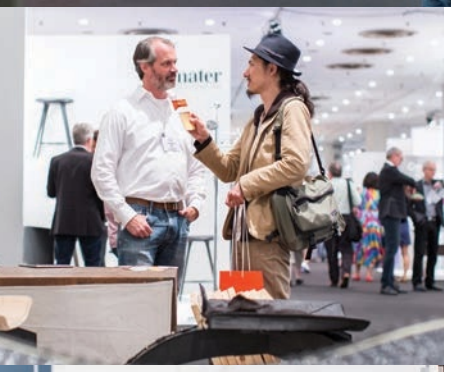
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Chef Smart

How technology in the kitchen is changing how we cook

From FitBit to Nest to iCloud, today's culture lives in a time of data gathering and remote capabilities. The kitchen is no exception.

"There are already several products in the marketplace that help consumers with timing and cooking, understanding food expiration dates, as well as overall health tracking," said David Mierke, a senior user experience researcher at ÄKTA, a digital user experience product design and development consultancy in Chicago. "Most of these products are still in their infancy but have begun to evolve from simple data collection to data interpretation."

The most up-and-coming products are those that enhance the cooking experience. Some new wall ovens can store recipes and then set the time and temperature based on the meal, and induction burners are beginning to use light to give the user visual feedback on heat use. While it is arguable whether a refrigerator with a built-in screen will be successful in the industry, the sophistication of a refrigerator that stores recipes or notifies the user when items are low has limitless value for a busy homeowner.

"More families have two working parents and less time to spend with family," said designer Midori Yoshikawa of Bellevue, Wash.-based Midori Yoshikawa Design Group. "Anything that makes preparing meals more fun and functional will improve the quality of their family time."

Professional Home Cooking

Home cooking is on the rise, along with an emphasis on nutritional value and professional results. In part because of the post-recession economy,







Top: The TPB Tech countertop from **Top Porzelanik Barcelona** introduces the invisible cooktop to the market. Made with a high temperature- and scratch-resistant surface, it contains an induction cooktop under four sheets of material and visible buttons on the surface. Thanks to magnetic wave technology, the surface remains unalterable without scratches or inlays of food. **Circle No. 218 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**

Middle: The Selia faucet from **Pfister** turns on and off by detecting movement in the sensor range. With its manual override mode, the faucet can also be operated conventionally with its handle and extended pulldown hose. **Circle No. 219 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**

Bottom: GE's ChillHub doubles as a development platform and a smart refrigerator. With two integrated USB hubs, built-in Wi-Fi capability and an open-source iOS-compatible app, ChillHub allows access to sensor data and the ability to control fridge components like the quantity of milk. **Circle No. 220 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



people are better educated about saving money and improving lifestyle by eating in. This foodie-centered technology, directed toward those with little time to spare and minimal culinary experience, helps eliminate the dangers of undercooked meats and creates masters out of amateurs.

"People want help planning meals and figuring out how to make new foods with the ingredients they have," said Taylor Dawson, product evangelist for FirstBuild, a partnership between GE and Local Motors. "The future of the kitchen is about enabling the aspirer by integrating technology to enable a seamless user experience."

Cooking sous vide, a technique of maintaining an accurate temperature for a long time, creates the more velvety texture in meats served in upscale restaurants. By pairing a Bluetooth temperature sensor with an induction cooktop, FirstBuild's Paragon Induction Cooktop monitors temperatures on a smartphone and modulates the burner power to maintain a stable temperature.

"People don't want a refrigerator that plays music; their smartphone does it better," said Dawson. "What people do want is to make better, healthier food."

Simple Water

While some new technologies use the touch of an app, others boast touch-free technology. To promote cleanliness and water conservation, touch-free faucets make common kitchen tasks – like cleaning a chicken or filling a heavy pot – easier.

"In today's world, people lead busy lives," said Jamie Dorman, group marketing manager for Pfister. "Technology is enhancing our kitchens and making them more convenient."

With touch-free faucets, users activate and de-activate water flow with motion. By activating water flow only when needed, these products conserve water while promoting safe food handling. Some faucets use color to indicate battery life and taps on the faucet itself to turn on and off, while others – like those with Pfister's React technology – use motion. Dorman predicts better integrated filtration and voice control will be next.





Top: The new **KWC** ZOE faucet incorporates a Luminaqua LED light ring, which illuminates both the sink and water jet. The thin spout comes with a pullout spray and incorporates a feature that reduces lime deposits. As water flows through the spray, the outlets in its faceplate expand to prevent deposits from accumulating. **Circle No. 221 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**

Middle: Dornbracht introduces eUnit Kitchen, which uses Smart Water technology to measure out exact amounts of water and the correct temperature. A memory function temporarily stores these settings, saving water in between tasks. **Circle No. 222 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**

Bottom: Made from Schott Ceran glass-ceramic, **Bertazzoni**'s induction cooktop is just as responsive as a gas range and is cool to the touch once cookware is removed. Available in 30-in. and 36-in. models, the cooktop has touch controls and five heating zones. **Circle No. 223 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**

Dornbracht's Smart Water technology can be updated through the years with customization opportunities. This concept allows users to control water temperature and volume with a simple display switch and control knobs for a more interactive experience.

"Modern technology can be complicated, or it's a novelty and doesn't have much value," said Pat Jarvis, vice president of sales and marketing for Dornbracht. "We are making it easy to use technology in the kitchen."

More Interaction

Designed to interact, remember and respond, technology for ovens and cooktops is becoming more refined. In induction cooktops, there is a shift to sophisticated user interfaces that allows users to control burners like they use their smartphones.

"Consumers are demanding highly functional and easy-to-use controls, and previously this was impossible for the cooktop," said Karen Elder, marketing manager at Schott North America.

New technology, like Schott's Ceran ClearTrans, allows full-color, LCD displays to be used on the cooktop. Since consumers were dissatisfied with the lack of feedback from an induction burner, the burners now have a visual cue showing that the burner selected is actually on.

"I expect to see more appliance integration for both small and large devices in the kitchen to help reduce clutter, while still allowing users to have fully functioning kitchens," said Elder. "For example, expect pots that talk to cooktops and refrigerators that send messages to the user.

With LG's HomeChat technology, the user can practically cook remotely by monitoring the status and cook time of the oven. HomeChat takes advantage of Natural Language Processing technology and the LINE mobile messenger so users can communicate, control, monitor and share content with their LG home appliances.

Customized Light

This idea of the connected home is meant to simplify daily routines and craft the home to react to personal preferences. Since the kitchen serves as a place for cooking, entertaining, homework and many other activities, this room in particular needs this versatility and customization.

"Dimmers for new and modern architectural LED downlights and remote control window shades are a natural fit for this important room, where the simplification of daily tasks and routines can save a world of time and make life easier," said David Weinstein, vice president of residential sales for Lutron Electronics Co., Inc.

As the preferred choice for most modern kitchens, LED lights boast the benefits of long life, energy efficiency and an eco-friendly quality. Along with producing little infrared light and close to no UV emissions, LED lights emit very little heat, making them ideal for cooking surfaces. Individual LEDs can be dimmed easily and are designed to focus light without the use of an external reflector, allowing for undercabinet lighting, crown molding illumination and motion-sensing lights.

"Creating technology that complements, enhances and expands a consumer's experience or knowledge is a viable way to ensure adoption and longevity," added Mierke. "Regardless, the future of technology in the kitchen is an exciting new area full of possibilities, untapped potential and opportunities." ■

— By Erinn Waldo



1.

2.

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4.

1. The Enviro Water Product Combo System from **Enviro Water Products** protects against contaminants, sediment and scale build-up, with substantial savings to the consumer over the lifetime of the appliance. Gold Seal Certified by the Water Quality Association, the system features a salt-free technology and a four-stage water filtration process to eliminate potential impurities. **Circle No. 224 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**

2. One touch of a finger on the GRAFIK T dimmer from **Lutron** sets the right lighting level for a kitchen. Offered in a variety of glass, metal and plastic finishes, the dimmer minimizes problems like flicker, shimmer and pop-on, as seen with other dimmers. **Circle No. 225 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**

3. From **Miele**, RemoteVision protects food and wine investments with a proprietary wireless local area network of technology and application software. RemoteVision-enabled products will have a constant connection to Miele's monitoring center. When a door is left open or a critical cooling component malfunctions, a secured transmission alerts Miele's service center, which contacts the homeowner. **Circle No. 226 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**

4. With a PowerPlus 30-minute wash, the **Frigidaire** Professional Dishwasher cleans dishes in a quarter of the time. The PrecisionPro Wash Zones target the hard-to-reach areas of bottles and delicate stemware, while Orbit Power Wash Technology gives four times the wash coverage. The dishwasher starts at $1,099. **Circle No. 227 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



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What's Hot in *Kitchen Cabinetry and Toilets*



Operating with only one gallon per flush, the one-piece SANICOMPACT toilet from **SFA Saniflo** could save households nearly 30 gallons of water per day. The toilet only measures 14.5 inches wide and 18.25 inches deep and needs no external gravity-flow tank. In addition, the system uses a 1-in. discharge pipe to pump water away from any nearby sinks. **Circle No. 228 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



IKEA has launched SEKTION, a modular kitchen system that will enable consumers to create customizable solutions. The system offers new features, such as more modularity, integrated lighting, inside drawer organization and drawers within drawers. SEKTION also boasts soft-close drawers and doors, as well as a wall-mounted rail system. **Circle No. 229 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



Part of the transitional Eclipse collection, **Fabuwood** Fusion cabinetry is a semi-customizable line with hundreds of accessories and options. Fusion is available in both blanc and chestnut. **Circle No. 231 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



The Brush Finish from **Wellborn Cabinet** is a hand-applied glaze in a subtle brush stroke that overlays the cabinetry paint. The finish is created by a technique applied to a contrasting opaque base color so it emulates a brush-painted finish. **Circle No. 230 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



The Coco one-piece wall-mount toilet from **Blu Bathworks** features an elongated bowl for added comfort and retails at $425. The unit offers low-consumption, dual-flush technology and meets several eco-conscious and accessible design requirements through its WaterSense Label, CALGreen compliance and ADA compliance. **Circle No. 232 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



From **Gerber**, the Viper compact, elongated bowl is WaterSense Certified and conserves 20 percent or more water over traditional 1.6-gpf products. Its compact design fits into smaller bathroom spaces, yet also provides the comfort of an elongated shape and extended-height bowl. Additional features include a quick-acting 3-in. flush valve and a fully glazed trapway. **Circle No. 233 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**

Ridgewood Shaker cabinets from **Adelphi Kitchens and Cabinetry** pair glass paneling with white finishes and a granite countertop. Shown in birch wood, the style includes crown molding around the top of the cabinets and a breakfast bar with built-in seating and storage underneath. **Circle No. 234 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**





The ALNOINOX steel kitchen from **ALNO** uses cardboard honeycomb between the steel sheets for maximum stability and surprising lightness. These panels cannot be warped by moisture or temperature changes. In addition, the system includes built-in hinges that are discreetly sunk into the doors. **Circle No. 235 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



From **Delta**, FlushIQ Technology addresses consumer concerns with touching the tank lever and toilet overflow. A sensor on the back of the bowl monitors the water level and will prevent additional flushes if there is an issue and also identifies possible tank leaks. With a wave of the hand, the toilet flushes without ever having to touch anything. **Circle No. 238 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



ICERA introduces the Cadence one-piece toilet to its line of bath fixtures. Along with an ADA-compliant chair-height, elongated bowl, the toilet offers a super-quiet flush mechanism and a shorter front-to-back dimension than most round-front toilets. Crafted in vitreous china, the Cadence comes in white or biscuit with a solid brass trip lever and is available starting at $700. **Circle No. 237 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



Wolf has added the color dark sable to its Saginaw collection of Wolf Classic Cabinets. This deep brown tone is available on full ½-in. side and back plywood panels, ¾-in. plywood shelves and ¾-in. solid wood corner blocks. **Circle No. 236 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



Niagara Conservation's Stealth rear-outlet toilet uses nearly 20 percent less water than other rear-outlet toilets and is the only single-flush toilet that uses 0.8 gallons per flush. Unlike other rear-outlet toilets, Stealth does not use a pressure-assist system, resulting in a quiet flush. **Circle No. 240 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



The Peppercorn finish from **Yorktown Cabinetry** has a light gray base with a hand-wiped charcoal overlay that enhances dimensional detail. The stain is available in antique and legacy distressing. **Circle No. 239 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**

The **Kohler** C3-230 bidet toilet seat features a contemporary design and a slender profile more subtle than most bidet options in the U.S. To help ease the transition from a standard seat to a bidet seat, the toilet includes a touchscreen remote with preset preferences. The C3-230 also offers a self-cleaning, stainless steel nozzle with UV sanitation that cycles daily. **Circle No. 241 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**





Montserrat from the **Marchi Group** is a modular kitchen with versatility to divide the spaces and create different areas within the same space. Along with a matte steel hood, the design includes chiseled handles and a lacquered table surface. **Circle No. 242 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



Conestoga now offers a dust-top option for most of its base cabinets. With the dust top, cabinets boast additional strength and rigidity especially when supporting heavy stone countertops. Dust tops are also known for keeping cabinet interiors and drawers free from installation debris and unwanted pests. The dust-top option replaces the standard top strips and provides a full-depth, ½-in.-thick plywood top. **Circle No. 243 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



For a streamlined, contemporary feel, the Oceanside collection of cabinetry from **Wood-Mode** offers hidden storage solutions and subtle color choices. The collection includes dual maple islands with a linear recessed door style in aqua shade, as well as a full kitchen storage wall in Vanguard Backpainted Glass in bronze. Grothouse Lumber countertops serve as island end caps and a counter for bar seating. **Circle No. 244 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



The Loft one-piece, high-efficiency toilet from **American Standard** saves space with an elongated bowl and adds comfort with an ADA-compliant, 16 ½-in.-bowl. For a seamless look, the decorative slow-close seat includes a telescoping seat cover designed to conceal the seat ring, and the trip lever is positioned on the left side of the tank. **Circle No. 245 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



Kitchen Craft's new collection of aluminum-framed doors offers three profiles in two fashionable finishes, expanding the range of options for meeting the trend of mixed materials and textures in homes. **Circle No.246 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**

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From **InSinkErator**, the high-performance tank (HWT-HP) can produce near-boiling water instantly. Along with an electronic thermostat for tighter temperature control, the HP Tank also features a 1,300-watt heating element for rapid recovery. The suggested retail price for the model is $530. **Circle No. 247 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



SA Baxter is introducing eight 12-in. door pulls to complement its existing Project-Ready line. The line consists of eight styles, from classic to modern, including art deco and transitional styles, and is available in brass and bronze. Made in New York's Hudson Valley, the collection is finished to order in a two- to four-week ship lead-time. **Circle No. 248 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



Inspired by the footed baths **Kohler** introduced more than a century ago, the Underscore oval bath translates the same simple geometric language of the rectilinear Underscore bath into an oval drop-in and freestanding bath. The bath is available with a variety of experiences, including VibraAcoustic technology, ProFlex BubbleMassage, Bask heated surface, chromatherapy lights and whirlpool technology. **Circle No. 250 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**

Caesarstone has added 10 new colors to its Classico collection, including Bianco Drift, shown here. This look blends the classical beauty of white with swirls of light brown and gray hues. The slabs are non-porous and heat, stain and scratch resistant. **Circle No. 249 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**





The **Formica Corporation** has introduced four new stone patterns to its Brand Laminate PremiumFX Patterns. Shown here, the Marfil Cream has warm white tones and light gray accents. The pattern is finished with Scovato, a lightly textured and smooth low-gloss visual. **Circle No. 251 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



The Charlotte Two-Handle Freestanding Tub Filler Trim from **Brizo** uses a ceramic cartridge for a 12-gpm flow. Made of solid brass, the risers for the freestanding deck-mount and floor-mount models are insulated to control heat and condensation. The faucet is listed at $1,075. **Circle No. 252 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



Stone Harbor Hardware has debuted five new hardware collections, including the Douglas, Curtiss (shown here), Sherwood, Contemporary Round and Contemporary Square. The new collections contain more than 70 pieces of hardware and are available in finishes such as satin nickel, vintage bronze and polished chrome. In addition to the new collections, Stone Harbor is also adding 38-mm appliance pulls in vintage bronze, satin nickel and stainless steel. **Circle No. 253 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



Lustrolite high-gloss acrylic panels from **Innovate Building Solutions** can be installed instead of tile to give a sleek look to kitchen and bathroom backsplashes, as well as tub and shower enclosures. The affordable panels are made of a high-performance acrylic material and look like back-painted glass but are 20 times stronger and half the weight. They are available in four sizes, and colors include arctic white, blue atoll, glacier, mocha, carbon and red rouge. They have no grout to clean and reseal, and they wipe off easily with mild soap and water. **Circle No. 254 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



Legrand has teamed up with Hubbardton Forge to create six lustrous metal wall plates forged by fire. The Hubbardton Forge line is part of the adorne collection and coordinates with the company's lighting products, offering a match between light switches and fixtures. Shown is the burnished steel finish – a translucent option that highlights the metal's natural color. **Circle No. 255 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



Hailo Fitted Technology introduces two self-supporting, European, standard-format waste separation systems for base units, which cater to the challenges of fitted kitchen sink units. The Cargo-Soft short (shown) and the Cargo-Soft low for cabinets with pullouts come with covered, top-mounted, ball-bearing, telescopic extension slides fitted with the cushioned Smooth-Tec self-closing feature. The self-adjusting side sections of the waste separation systems and a frame housing with silver-colored metal parts ensure simple installation in 16-mm and 19-mm sidewalls. **Circle No. 256 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



U.K. tile manufacturer and distributor, **Original Style**, offers large-format, decorative glass tiles in a variety of effects – from metallic copper to textured waves to crushed pearl. The tiles measure 12 inches by 24 inches and and shown here in Antique Glass beveled-edge brick. **Circle No. 257 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



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BLANCO has expanded its Fireclay collection with the addition of a second color, biscuit. The CERANA sink (shown in biscuit) features a reversible design with two different corner styles to feature either a traditional-rounded or contemporary-contoured apron front. It is made of natural material and is highly resistant to shock, heat, acid, discoloration and chips. Its retail price ranges from $640-$1,525. **Circle No. 259 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**

The Esthesia Collection of acrylic, therapeutic baths from **BainUltra** was inspired by Neoclassicism with clean geometric lines complemented by gentle curves. It is available as a freestanding unit, as well as a drop-in, undermount and/or theater stage application. The tub is available with a variety of therapy options, including ThermoMasseur with the soothing benefits of hydro-thermo massage and the uniform heat available from Geysair technology. **Circle No. 258 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**





Conestoga Wood Specialties has expanded its Aluminum Frame Door Collection with four new finishes – polished chrome, black, oil-rubbed bronze and white. The company also offers a product selection kit that allows end users and designers to view a variety of frame, glass and panel inserts. Selection kits contain frame corners, panel insert samples, full-color kitchen and door imagery and a microfiber cleaning cloth. **Circle No. 260 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**

Hardware Resources has introduced the Wells vessel-top vanity to the Top Vanity Collection by Jeffrey Alexander. The design features an oversized white vessel bowl top and 28-in. solid wood vanity and is available in deep espresso or rich chocolate with satin nickel hardware and vanity feet in two- or three-drawer offerings. Wells offers two working drawers, a top drawer fitted around plumbing, a full bottom drawer and an open shelf in the middle. **Circle No. 261 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**





GE Introduces the 80-Gallon GeoSpring Hybrid Electric Water Heater, which exceeds the U.S. Department of Energy's new energy-efficiency standards for all electric water heaters larger than 55 gallons. The heater is ideal for homes over 3,000 square feet or those that have more than 3.5 baths. It includes the same water and electrical connections as a standard electric water heater, making it easy to install, and operates in heap pump mode at an ambient temperature down to 35 degrees F, helping homeowners save on energy even during the colder months. **Circle No. 262 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



Circle No. 33 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo



Inspired by jazz music, the Galliano Chandelier from **DelightFULL** has a sculptural shape that is both versatile and contemporary. The chandelier is made in brass with a nickel-plated body and a white matte interior. **Circle No. 263 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



Influenced by the 1920s and 1930s, the Arterra Collection of bathroom faucets, shower products and fixtures from **Pfister** offers a bold yet soft look. Made with brass, Ultraseal cartridges with ceramic disc valves, the fixtures are guaranteed to never leak or drip. The collection is available in polished chrome, brushed nickel, polished nickel and Tuscan bronze and starts at $246. **Circle No. 264 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



Named after the Mexican shoreline, the Paraiso Collection of sinks from **VIGO** combines simple, elegant lines with a fire- and stain-resistant, antibacterial and cUPC-certified composition. Fine grit sandpaper, included with all composite sinks, allows for quick and easy removal of marks or blemishes. **Circle No. 265 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**

Osborne Wood Products offers an Electrical Receptacle Notching service to easily accommodate an outlet on any kitchen island. A hole placed through the center of the island post goes through the entirety of the leg, allowing for electrical wiring to be inserted from either the top or bottom. Second, a receptacle notch is added to the top block of the island post. The final step is to add a standard box to the notch, which allows the choice of electrical application to be added to the box later. The service charge is $49.00 per post. **Circle No. 266 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**





The Elan Vital Collection from **Watermark Designs** now includes the Elan Vital Pot Filler. Maintaining the industrial look and feel of the collection, the pot filler is also as customizable as the other pieces in the selection. **Circle No. 267 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



Walker Zanger's Duquesa, meaning Duchess in Spanish, recalls Persian textiles, Portuguese tiles, Egyptian stone inlay and Chinese screens in its collection of tiles. Each tile is hand painted on a cream background and varies from combinations of navy and gray to Mediterranean blue and yellow ochre accented with metallic silver. **Circle No. 268 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



The Rose Collection from **THG Paris** places the rose flower atop THG's metal taps and accessories. The collection can be used for sink, shower and bath fittings with a line of matching accessories and is available in several finishes, including chrome, gold, luxbrass, nickel and rhodium silver. Photo courtesy of www.thg.fr. **Circle No. 269 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**

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Elmira Stove Works has introduced the new Northstar Quicksilver metallic powder coat finish, along with the stainless steel Model 1950FTSS fridge. The finish is lower luster than the company's traditional high-gloss finish and is extremely resistant to marking, streaking and fingerprinting. The refrigerator offers a sleek, vintage exterior and can be paired with other brands' stainless steel appliances for a consistent look. **Circle No. 270 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



The Hensley pulldown kitchen faucet from **Moen** offers three water-flow settings – spray, aerated stream and pause. The faucet is equipped with Moen's innovative Reflex system, offering a spray wand designed to put itself securely away. Hensley can be installed as a single-hole installation, or a matching cover plate is available for three- and four-hole sink applications. It is available in the Spot Resist Stainless finish, which helps resist fingerprints and water spots, and also features Microban antimicrobial technology. **Circle No. 272 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



The M.E. 25 kitchen and bar collection from **GRAFF** features eight precision-engineered faucets that are available in olive bronze (GRAFF exclusive finish), polished chrome, brushed nickel and polished nickel, depending on the style. **Circle No. 271 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



Trending Accessibility offers the European Wet Room, which removes physical barriers like the bathtub and shower curb and expands the usable floor space. The system is comprised of two simple components that include a structural, load-bearing shower pan and a waterproofing system. The shower pan comes in 10 different sizes with the option of an adjustable drain. Options such as shower seats, handheld showers and decorative grab bars are also available. **Circle No. 273 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



The Rustic Alder Barn Door from **Real Sliding Hardware** features a light cream finish, stainless steel Flush Pulls and Aero slides. It retails for $560 and is available in five different widths and three heights. Other finishes include clear, barn red and pitch black. **Circle No. 274 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



BlueStar's new commercial-style cooktop is designed to deliver restaurant-quality performance – and takes up minimal kitchen space. The burners can reach 22K BTUs of power and also offer a simmer that can turn down to 130 degrees. The cooktop can be installed above a BlueStar Electric Wall Oven and includes brushed stainless steel knobs. Consumers also have the option of customizing the knobs in any of the company's 750+ colors and finishes. **Circle No. 275 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



Rev a Shelf's 445-VC Soft-Close Vanity Grooming Organizer measures 19 inches deep and comes with Blum's soft-close slides and two stainless steel bins for storing brushes, curling irons and hair dryers. Two versions are available for both vanity-height and base-height applications, and the bottom shelf features a non-skid vinyl liner and clear polycarbonate rails. **Circle No. 276 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



The Melrose modern dressing table from **Boca do Lobo** reinterprets the past with a contemporary style. It features a hole to set an oval mirror that lets you adjust the viewing angle while rotating around a vertical axis, allowing a rotation of 360 degrees. The base is mahogany, and the box is tempered glass with a front opening for the drawers. The wood structure is lacquered in black with a high-gloss varnish, and the handles are made through a foundry process. **Circle No. 277 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**

The Mini Toscana Sink from **Thompson Traders** is an apron-front unit made of hand-hammered solid copper with a black copper finish. It also offers the flexibility of a drop-in or under-mount installation and can be used in outdoor kitchens and entertaining spaces. **Circle No. 278 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**





The Vintage RO Faucet for reverse osmosis and water treatment systems from **Tomlinson Industries** is made of lead-free brass and has a high-reach neck of 12 inches. Its protective spout-top design prevents after-drip, and an internal ceramic disc provides smooth operation. The faucet comes with a modular air gap that can be removed if it is not needed, and it is available in five finishes, including antique bronze, Venetian bronze, polished chrome, satin nickel and brushed stainless. **Circle No. 279 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



Bauformat USA offers a range of customizable options and integrates seamless technology with an edited, modern aesthetic. The company's designers incorporate in-cabinetry lighting and touch mechanisms like Servo Drive. Bauformat has partnered with Miele to merge responsive kitchen appliances with a nuanced façade. *Photo credit: Amy Benton* **Circle No. 280 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



Watermark Designs' Elan Vital kitchen faucet has a telescopic spout; extending or retracting as needed. The deck-mounted lever controls volume and temperature using a hydro-progressive valve. The brass wire basket is optional, as is the independent side spray, which has a knurled base and uses a hydro-progressive valve. The faucet is available in 12 finishes. **Circle No. 281 or visit kbbonline.com/freeinfo**



Not Your Typical Space

Design team created a functional space that doesn't follow ordinary kitchen rules

By Chelsie Butler

A need for a redesign usually starts this way: The kitchen is too small, cramped and dark to be functional. Because the homeowners in this Northwest Washington house have kids constantly filtering through the kitchen, the main project goal was to make the new space – which is actually an addition to the house – functional for kids and adults without sacrificing high-impact design.

Renovated by the design team of Cunningham Quill Architects and Jennifer Gilmer Kitchen & Bath, the kitchen was designed to have a better connection with the backyard and have a lack of – rather than a majority of – wall cabinets.

"Contrary to most kitchen projects, the homeowners wanted the room to be warm and welcoming for a variety of activities and not look like an ordinary kitchen; hence the lack of wall cabinets and strategic positioning of the appliances," said Jennifer Gilmer.

Goals Achieved, Improvements Accomplished

The combination speed oven/microwave is under the counter in the island with a warming drawer beneath it, and the refrigerator is tucked into a niche on the right as you enter the space. According to Gilmer, it is almost invisible to guests seated at the table or on the couch and preserves the open floor plan.

To better connect the space with the backyard – something extremely important to the clients – the architect designed in a wall of continuous windows that surrounds the room, which Gilmer says offers a feeling of a large, screened-in porch that had been closed in. Instead of a wall of upper cabinets, an oversized range hood encased in a pleasing white plank board acts as the focal point.

"This open wall space boasts handcrafted tan subway tile that reflects the light pouring in from the adjacent windows and provides an airy feeling in the room," said Gilmer.



The working island contains the main sink and features hidden storage on each end.

Additional improvements include:

- A working island with ample room for food preparation
- More countertop space on the range wall
- Corner windows above the secondary sink for added brightness
- Skylights that bring in natural light from both kitchen entrances
- A tray ceiling with uplights to provide a subtle glow



Next to the recessed refrigerator is an appliance garage with a bi-fold door and rollout tray.



A handcrafted tan subway tile reflects light from the adjacent windows, and hot-rolled steel shelves contain hooks for cup storage.

"The combination of walls of windows, recessed lights, skylights, ceiling lighting, undercabinet lights and strategically placed chandeliers allows the homeowners to layer natural and artificial light to accommodate whatever activities are going on in the space," added Gilmer.

Storage Stress and Appliance Aches

According to the designer, creating a kitchen with enough storage and functionality without it actually looking too much like a kitchen was a creative challenge. Another task was to maximize the storage space so the homeowners didn't lose functionality by foregoing the upper cabinets.

The range hood features hidden storage on each side that can be accessed by touch latches so there is no visible hardware. A "magic corner" pullout accessory in the corner base cabinet allows full access to what Gilmer says would have been wasted space. A bifold door that extends down to the countertop beside the fridge conceals small appliances in a convenient pullout tray, and hot-rolled shelves below the range hood contain hooks for dish and cup storage. According to Gilmer, additional dish storage on the range wall and mesh-metal front bins are convenient for kids to access their dishes and snacks.

The placement of the refrigerator was a concern for both the homeowner, who thought it may feel cramped – as well as the design team, who felt the space to the left of the appliance was awkward.

"We solved this by placing a taller and deeper-than-normal appliance garage with bifolding doors to the left," said Gilmer. "The top of this cabinet and floating shelves above give the client upper storage without needing to put actual wall cabinets there."

A wall of windows in the space allows for a spectacular view of the lush, green backyard. The island boasts a massive marble slab with minimal overhang.



An oversized range hood encased in plank board that also incorporates storage is a focal point in the kitchen. Hidden storage on each side is accessed via touch latches.

Lessons Learned and Client Rapport

"If clients want a truly open kitchen, foregoing wall cabinets can go a long way toward that goal," said Gilmer, adding that upholstered furniture, continuous wood floors and extra wide openings to the rest of the house help the addition flow easily from the original space.

To achieve a "non-kitchen" look and feel, she suggests incorporating cabinetry that mimics furniture, like open bookshelves; furniture-style legs wrapped in hot-rolled steel "socks;" and a recessed toekick for the island.

While the client was open to new suggestions, she also had some fixed ideas around which the design team had to work – the refrigerator location being one.

"It's great when a client voices concerns because it allows us to make sure that either there is no need for this concern, or that we need to change something," said Gilmer. "Some clients are afraid to speak up, which only works to their detriment." ■

sources

Design Team: *Jodi Macklin, Jennifer Gilmer Kitchen & Bath, Chevy Chase, Md., & Cunningham Quill Architects, Washington, D.C.;* ***Photographer:*** *Bob Narod*

Backsplash: *Waterworks;* ***Cabinets:*** *Quality Custom Cabinetry;* ***Countertops:*** *Marble Systems;* ***Flooring:*** *Burchette & Burchette;* ***Hood:*** *Custom-built by Quality Custom cabinetry with a RangeCraft insert;* ***Lighting:*** *Vaughan Designs;* ***Microwave, Oven and Warming Drawer:*** *Miele;* ***Refrigerator:*** *Sub-Zero;* ***Stove:*** *Viking*



Glossy, elegant Carrara marble countertops are coupled with clean lines of custom cabinetry.

The Rest is History

By Hilary Daninhirsch

The master bath and kitchen in a Hollywood bungalow receive a fresh look and leave their former designs behind





Restoring a home in a historical district can present many challenges, particularly when there are restrictions regarding changing the footprint and envelope of the house. Despite those constraints, Lindsay Chambers, principal and lead designer at Hazel.Wood Design Group in Los Angeles, managed to transform a circa-1920 Craftsman-style bungalow into a fresh, hip and welcoming space in Hollywood's Spaulding Square.

Chambers and her crew gutted the entire house, making sure to leave the windows and the building layout intact in accordance with the restrictions.

"The idea for the whole house was to make it warm and inviting – a little jewel box – using very high-end finishes for a home of this size," said Chambers. "The developer wanted to make it special and set it apart."

To that end, between March and October of last year, Chambers combined a mix of modern and traditional elements, and the entire house underwent a complete cosmetic facelift, including new siding, new hardware, plumbing, paints, molding – the works. Two standout rooms are the kitchen and master bath.

No More Country Kitchen

The kitchen is where family life happens and where guests congregate. To achieve that welcoming feeling, the former space needed to undergo a head-to-toe renovation.





All-new appliances transform an outdated space into a chef's dream with plenty of room for entertaining.



"It had a country feel, and the client wanted it to be much more transitional and updated so that everything felt brand new on the inside," said Chambers, who describes the new look as a modern take on country – or transitional country.

The former kitchen had fake wood overlay cabinet panels with white porcelain knobs and a cream porcelain tile countertop. It also had wood laminate flooring and peeling, stained wallpaper. Because there was nothing reusable in the kitchen, Chambers' team gutted the space, reworked the plumbing and electrical wiring, updated the foundation and replaced the flooring and cabinetry.

One of Chambers' main challenges in the kitchen was an awkwardly shaped island that jutted out at a 45-degree diagonal angle, which she replaced with a rectangular island to give the whole space simple and clean lines. She also needed to create more cabinetry space and relocate appliances so that they were in a more functional location. Chambers installed a floor-to-ceiling cabinet pantry, a lazy Susan and cabinetry with a modular shelving system

The new kitchen is almost unrecognizable, having undergone a transformation from an outdated country look to a transitional Craftsman look. The stainless steel and polished chrome appliances and fixtures are modern and sleek, as are the Carrara marble countertops and subway backsplash. The space now has plenty of workspace, as well. Seating includes a small table in the corner along with bar stools at the island peninsula.

"When you redo a kitchen, it's better to start from scratch rather than trying to work from old, dated materials and appliances past their time," said Chambers. "It doesn't save money in the long run by holding on to and refurbishing old appliances."

Master Bath Bliss

The client wanted a soothing, spa-like, modern atmosphere in the master bath mixed with a "transitional country" feel. Like the kitchen, the entire space had to be gutted and reframed; a leak in the tub resulted in wood being rotted out.

The original master bathroom had been designed with a Venetian grotto in mind, and the overall style did not meld with the house's Craftsman architecture. In addition, the layout was poor and the space small.

"They used poor-quality travertine tiles and slabs, as well as a peach stone and an ornate bathroom vanity that was not cohesive with the rest of the style in the house," said Chambers. "The shower glass was tinted gray/black with brass accents. It was quite a bathroom!"

The only elements recognizable from the former bathroom are the window and the roofline, the former of which has been repainted. Other than being required to keep the window in place, the other difficulty Chambers faced was the tight space. Rather than a shower/tub combo, she placed a standalone tub next to a zero-entry rain shower, giving the room an open and airy configuration. Plus, this zero-entry rain shower is a universal design element that will allow the future homeowner to age in place, whereas the former space had steps leading up to the tub.

In keeping with her design aesthetic throughout the home, Chambers mixed and matched elements in the master bath, which is predominantly gray and white. The vanity is made of reclaimed wood – giving it a weathered look – and it contains dual sinks. She also combined the rustic vanity with an elegant Moroccan Carrara tile for the back wall and accent wall, and her choice of sconces are a polished nickel – inspired by industrial, early-American lighting design.

Chambers, whose business has won its share of design awards, has some advice for designers who are working with open shower systems.

"Make sure you have enough drainage sloping so that the water only goes in the drain like it's meant to, and not all over your room," she advised. "This project was successful, but we needed five feet to make it work. The showerhead should be at a 90-degree angle, so it is directing water directly down," she concluded, noting that most showerheads are at a 45-degree angle.



The walk-in shower opens up the bathroom, while the freestanding tub lends an air of nostalgia to the space.

Final Thoughts

Notably, the two-bedroom, two-bath 1,845-sq.-ft. home sits a few houses away from the house that was featured in the classic horror movie "Nightmare on Elm Street." In a neighborhood with such character, the renovations to this home will be a dream come true for a future owner.

The interior of the home now melds with the character of the neighborhood, which abuts a trendy design district. "It's a design-savvy neighborhood, so people appreciate a fresh, crisp look for a Craftsman home," said Chambers. ■



Angular ceilings help usher in more light into a cramped space, while the gray tile adds a touch of elegance.

sources

Design: *Lindsay Chambers, Hazel.Wood Design Group;* ***Photography:*** *Jill Padair*

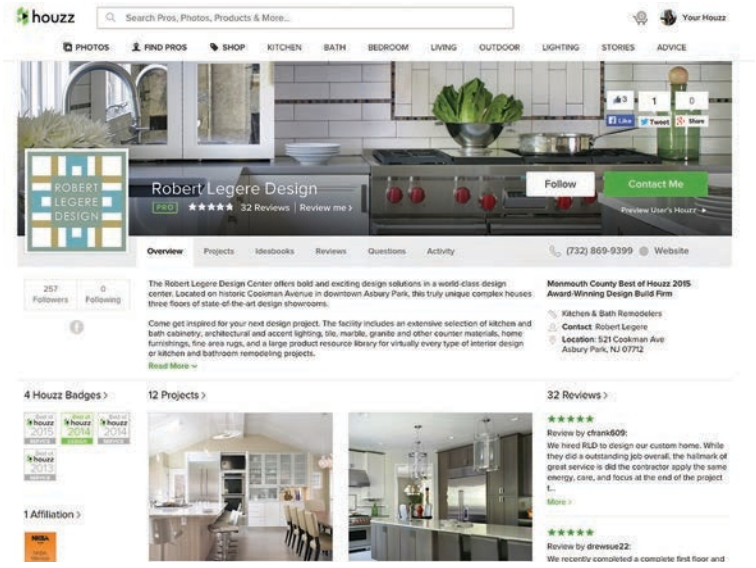
Bathroom

Countertops: *Carrara Marble;* ***Lighting:*** *Hudson Valley;* ***Plumbing Fixtures:*** *Hansgrohe and Newport Brass;* ***Tile:*** *Walker Zanger & Waterworks;* ***Tub:*** *Duravit;* ***Vanity:*** *Restoration Hardware*

Kitchen

Countertops: *Carrara Marble;* ***Dishwasher, Hood & Range:*** *Viking;* ***Flooring:*** *Du Chateau;* ***Lighting:*** *Ameico;* ***Plumbing Fixtures:*** *ROHL;* ***Refrigerator:*** *LG;* ***Tile:*** *Sonoma Tile Makers*

How to Build Your Brand on Houzz



Home design and renovation professionals on Houzz can create and manage profiles, upload photos of their projects and interact with homeowners in the Houzz community – all to build their brands, communicate with and reach new clients both locally and globally. Homeowners are able to communicate their ideas, learn more about the remodeling and building process and find the right professionals for their projects. So why should you take the time to create a Houzz profile?

Houzz connects more than 25 million monthly unique users – 90 percent of whom are homeowners – with more than 600,000 professionals across more than 60 categories from kitchen and bath designers to general contractors to landscape architects across the country and around the world.

According to the 2014 Houzz & Home survey, 26 percent of homeowners on Houzz are planning a bathroom remodel in the next two years, and more than one in five are planning a kitchen remodel in the same timeframe. In addition, 21 percent of homeowners plan to hire a kitchen or bath remodeler in the next two years, and 18 percent plan to hire a kitchen or bath designer. They're using Houzz to find inspiration, collaborate with others, source products and research and hire professionals. If you're looking to reach new prospective clients and work more efficiently with current clients, Houzz is an indispensable tool.

Here are some tips to get you started on Houzz:

1. Create a Compelling Profile. This is where homeowners will get information about you and your business, so you want to provide a good sense of who you are and what makes your business different from others. Similar to the "About Us" section of your website, you can share the background and history of your business, where and how you work with clients and why your business or approach is unique.

2. Showcase Your Work. The Houzz platform is highly visual, so uploading high-quality photos of your work is key to getting noticed by prospective clients. Consider investing in good photography to showcase your work and increase your exposure to as many homeowners looking to hire a pro as possible. To make this process easier, Houzz recently launched a Photographer Network (www.houzz.com/getphotos) that provides professionals on Houzz with access to top photographers at affordable prices. When posting photos, including details about each one will help homeowners understand your work and surface your photos in search results.

3. Get Reviews. A Houzz survey revealed that when it comes to hiring a professional for their projects, 83 percent of homeowners rated "good reviews and recommendations" as "very important" (a five on a five-point scale). Having reviews on Houzz from both clients and colleagues is a great way to build your credibility and brand. On your profile, simply click the "Get Reviews" button, and Houzz will help you send your requests, or you can ask clients to visit your profile and click "Review Me." Having more reviews will help raise your ranking in the directory.

4. Use Ideabooks as a Communication Tool. Clients often find it challenging to articulate a vision for their home. Having your client create an ideabook of spaces and products they like can help you identify their style preferences at the start of a project. With private ideabooks, you can share styles, colors, layouts, products and more, allowing your client to edit the ideabook for instant feedback.

If you use Houzz ideabooks to communicate and collaborate with your clients throughout the project, they will already be Houzz users, so asking them to provide a review will be no problem. Plus, clients will see you as a tech-savvy expert who is sharing valuable tools that will help make their project a success; making it even more likely you'll get that positive review.

5. Engage the Community. Houzzers are looking for advice about everything from finishes to floor plans, paint color to appliances and beyond, providing a rare opportunity for professionals to engage directly with interested consumers. Seeing how a professional interacts in "Design Dilemmas" provides homeowners with a glimpse into a pro's work style and demonstrates their expertise.

Once you've set up your Houzz profile, you can use Houzz Site Designer – a free website tool provided by Houzz to all professionals – to create a beautiful, free website with the photos, photos, reviews and other key content that's already available in your Houzz profile. Start by choosing a theme, then select the best projects and photos to showcase your work and publish the site with just a few clicks. Site Designer is already optimized for desktop computers, tablets and smartphones. ■

— Liza Hausman is vice president of industry marketing for Houzz. To create your free business profile on Houzz, visit www.houzz.com/getStartedPro.



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K+BB (ISSN 0730-2487) is published January, February/March, April, May/June, July/August, September, October, November/December, by Emerald Expositions 85 Broad Street, New York, NY 10004; (646) 668-3768. Editorial offices: 1145 Sanctuary Parkway, Suite 355, Alpharetta, GA 30009; (770) 291-5425. Volume 62, No. 3. U.S. Subscriptions $79.00 one year, to individuals or firms engaged in retailing, wholesaling, or manufacturing of kitchen cabinets, bath vanities, built-in kitchens and baths. All other U.S. subscriptions $83.00 per year. Qualified Canadian and Mexican subscriptions $94.00 per year. All other foreign subscriptions $139.00 per year. Single copies $10.00 per issue, prepayment required. SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION, ADDRESS CHANGES AND SINGLE ISSUE REQUESTS: Write to K+BB, P.O. Box 3601, Northbrook, IL 60065-3601. Canadian Post Publications Mail Agreement Number 40798037. Return undeliverable Canadian addresses to: Emerald Expositions, c/o P.O. Box 2601, 915 Dixie Rd., Mississauga, ON L4TOA9 CUSTOMER SERVICE INQUIRIES: Call (847) 559-7533 or Toll Free (800) 697-8859 or Fax (847) 291-4816, email: NKB@omeda.com. Periodicals postage paid at New York, NY, and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to K+BB, Box 3601. Northbrook, IL 60065-3601. © Copyright 2014 Emerald Expositions

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Designer Rhonda Knoche talks success, K&B trends and becoming the NKBA U Professional of the Year



How does it feel to be the NKBA U Professional of the Year?

That was such a nice surprise and a great honor. After I finished my presentation in the final round at KBIS, I threw an impromptu fist in the air, saying "Stay in school!"

I have taken 15 classes in the last five years from NKBA U and other organizations, and I'm honored to represent the important role continuing education plays across our industry – not just for designers but for remodelers, builders, wholesalers – all of us.

Finding the time and committing to your professional development can be challenging, especially when you own your own business and wear many hats. But NKBA U offers its courses online – many on-demand, available 24/7, so there is no good excuse not to stay current with education. For me, winning the NKBA U Professional of the Year also validates the value of certification in our industry. It took me four times to pass the CKD and three times to pass CBD. It took JFK Jr. five times to pass the bar. Even for some of us with bad test-taking skills or learning disabilities – giving up is not an option. That made receiving this award an even bigger honor.

How did you get into the kitchen & bath industry?

My mom was a caterer for 33 years, so we lived in the kitchen. She renovated our kitchen when I was 16, and she was so very far ahead of where design was at that time. My upbringing ignited a passion that would come full circle in my late 20s after I decided a career in oncology in the health sciences sector wasn't for me. I went back to school to get my interior design and architectural design degrees (35 years ago) and had an internship with a great mentor who would become one of many to help shape me as a professional. I'm so grateful for each of them.

What has been one of your most rewarding projects?

My projects are a reflection of my clients who live in the space – not a reflection of me. In fact, you should not be able to recognize "me" in any of my projects; it is all about my clients' tastes. You'll see that in the diversity of projects featured in my Houzz portfolio, especially a project I completed with my metal sculptor client. I showed him a concept that didn't make it off the drawing board several years ago, but he loved it and wanted to see more. I designed hardware for his kitchen that could transfer from one cabinet door to another. We used copper on the backsplash, knowing the material will patina as it ages – something the homeowner is looking forward to. A large question mark serves as the refrigerator handle, and an exclamation point opens the wine cooler. My client was open to my ideas and was a good collaborator.

What are some kitchen & bath trends you've recently noticed (and liked)?

To balance out all of the technology and electronics, I'm seeing softer finishes and details. People are talking more about functionality and ergonomics as part of a comfortable lifestyle, and personalization is key. I'm also excited that homeowners want to make full use of their home – they're moving away from formal dining rooms and using the extra space to add to the kitchen – or adding an outdoor kitchen so they can fully enjoy their backyard. If you are not using the space, it's expensive real estate.



Knoche's kitchen project with the help of her metal sculptor client

When it comes to the bathroom, steam showers are growing in demand; clients see this space as a retreat to wind down and decompress. Gone are those two-person tubs that came standard in homes built during the 80s and 90s. Unless a client thoroughly enjoys a luxurious soak, they have no issue losing the tub to make room for something they'll enjoy and use much more. I am seeing more contemporary lines because we are trying to calm ourselves and make our spaces cleaner and more minimalist.

What are some lessons you have learned you can share with other designers?

After 23 years of working at the same large design/build firm, I launched my own business during the worst economic times, so I had to learn to think outside the bubble and say "yes" to everything. I joined the NKBA and other associations, I networked at various events, and I always wrote thank you notes. I force myself to do something new each day and recently met 10 new people at KBIS I had only known via social media. Expanding your wheelhouse with more education and classes is pivotal. ■

— By Chelsie Butler

Knoche's Secrets to Success

- I force myself to do something new each day.
- We need to stop sometimes and assess where we are in our careers and look forward with fresh eyes.
- Some of our best ideas are often on the cutting-room floor.
- Take advantage of the wonderful opportunities and people around you every day.

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